

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Oberland Trade Report.

Vol. XLIII.]

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 1896.

No. 7.

CONTENTS.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Epitome of the Week, &c. | 121 |
| Leading Articles:— | |
| Progress in China | 122 |
| The Governor on Queen's College | 122 |
| Queen's College and European Education | 123 |
| Dr. Cantlie and his "Fads" | 123 |
| Viscount Miura and the Murder of the Queen of Korea | 124 |
| Marine Courts of Inquiry | 125 |
| The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce | 125 |
| Settlement of the Kirin Land Case | 126 |
| The Tung Wah Hospital Commission | 126 |
| The Kirin Outrage.—Satisfactory Settlement | 126 |
| Hongkong Legislative Council | 126 |
| Supreme Court | 127 |
| The Amateur Dramatic Club at the Theatre Royal | 129 |
| Prize Distribution at Queen's College.—Important Speech by the Governor | 130 |
| The Departure of Dr. Cantlie.—Farewell Speeches and Presentations | 133 |
| The Stranding of the On Sang | 136 |
| The Tung Wah Hospital | 137 |
| Fires in Hongkong | 137 |
| Formosa | 137 |
| Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Limited | 138 |
| Hongkong Ice Co., Limited | 138 |
| Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited | 138 |
| Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce | 139 |
| Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited | 139 |
| Cricket | 140 |
| Hongkong and Port News | 140 |
| Commercial | 141 |
| Shipping | 143 |

BIRTH.

On the 5th inst., at 3, West End Terrace, the wife of J. E. RUNCIE, chief engineer of the steamer *Tsinan*, of a son. [400.]

MARRIAGES.

On the 21st December, 1895, at Emmanuel Parish Church, Essex, by the Rev. A. H. Chapman, M.A., W. St. John H. HANCOCK, to BECIE ELIZABETH HEIN. No cards. [430.]

At Union Church, on the 5th inst., by the Rev. G. J. Williams, JOHN RODGER, to MARY KINNAIRD, daughter of GEORGE SINCLAIR, Manila. [399.]

DEATHS.

At Christiania, on the 23rd December, 1895, WILHELM MATTHESEN, late of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company. [431.]

At 3, West End Terrace, on the 7th inst., the infant son of J. E. RUNCIE, chief engineer of the steamer *Tsinan*. [425.]

At his residence, Yokohama, on the 22nd January, Mr. HENRI FREDERIC SCHOENE, of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, in his 58th year.

At the Club Hotel, 82, Division Street, Kobe, on the 28th January, MONTAGU ROSENTHAL, aged 39 years.

At his residence, Shanghai, on the 29th January, 1896, JAMES BROWN, late chief engineer of the steamer *Fukuro*, aged 75 years.

At Cairo, on Sunday evening, the 2nd February, 1896, MARIE, the beloved wife of Mr. LIEBER, late of Shanghai.

At Shanghai, on the 3rd inst., LORENZO MANEPE BAPTISTA, aged 55 years.

On the 5th instant, at Albany Place, Dumfries, DAVID W. JONES, late of Shanghai, aged 44 years. (By telegram).

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 10th January arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Mirzapore*, on the 6th February (30 days); and the German mail of the 13th January arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, on the 11th February (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The *Edgar* Relief Fund amounts at present to nearly £1,300.

Mrs. Bishop (Miss Isabella Bird) was at Ichang at the end of last month and was about to set out for Chengtu by chair.

The U. S. Chengtu Commission has returned, having arrived safely at Shanghai on the 31st January after four months of arduous travel.

According to the *Hupao*, Li Hung-chang has strongly advised that the Chinese railways should be run by a mercantile company and not by the Government.

Sir N. Hannen, Consul-General at Shanghai and Judge of the Supreme Court for China and Japan, is a passenger to Shanghai by the P. & O. steamer *Mirzapore*.

The report of the Acting Superintendent of the Hongkong Fire Brigade for 1895 gives the damage caused by fires during the year as \$622,000, exclusive of damage to a ship in harbour by fire.

From the *Peking and Tientsin Times* we learn that M. and Mme. de Sercey, while walking in the Chinese city at Peking, with a Secretary of the French Legation, were attacked by Chinese throwing broken bricks. They suffered no injury.

The renewal of the mail contract is under consideration. It has been suggested by the London postal authorities that Hongkong might be made the terminal point instead of Shanghai. The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce protests against the proposed change.

The report of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited, has been issued. The 1894 account shows a profit of \$92,703, and it is proposed to pay a dividend of \$9.05 per share, which will absorb \$72,499, and to pay the remaining \$20,193 as a bonus to contributing shareholders. The 1895 account shows a balance at credit of \$260,712.

The direct expenditure of Japan in connection with the war with China amounted, up to the 31st March last, to 225 million yen. This sum does not include indirect expenditure and losses. The total sum to be paid by China to Japan by way of war indemnity and in consideration of the retrocession of Liaotung is 230 million taels, or, say, 350 million yen, in round numbers. By the time that Japan has cleared up all her accounts, it seems likely that she will be actually out of pocket in the matter of direct expenditure, not to speak of indirect losses.

It is confidently asserted, writes a native correspondent from Canton, that a rebellion on a large scale will break out in Kwangtung province in about three months from now, and that the military authorities at Canton are preparing for a desperate struggle against the malcontents, who have sworn to spare no one, especially those of Tartar origin. There is a good deal of uneasiness in consequence amongst the wealthy classes of Canton and other large cities of Kwangtung, and the universal prayer is that some strong Governor may be sent out to hold the reins in Canton. Hsu Chen-yi ought to be the right man.—*N. C. Daily News*.

At Shanghai on the 30th January thirteen houses collapsed in Seward Road, Hongkew, resulting in three deaths and severe injuries being inflicted on four natives. The houses were in course of building and were nearly completed, but the construction was so defective that they were unable to support the weight of a heavy fall of snow.

The judgment of the Hiroshima Chiho Saibansho in the case of Viscount Miura, late Japanese Minister to Korea, and others accused with him of assassination and instigation to rebellion in connection with the Seoul *emeute* of the 8th October last, finds that the affair was planned by the Minister in conjunction with others, and that the murder of the Queen formed part of the plan, but that the accused nevertheless committed no criminal act.

The great rise in the price of all commodities, says the *Eastern World*, has had the natural consequence that the price of labour has risen in proportion, but, so far as Yokohama is concerned, fairly competent labour seems to have vanished from the earth. It is not to be had at any price, and the few men in the various trades that have any inkling at all of their business are so overwhelmed with work that nothing can be done in anything like reasonable time. Work of all kinds therefore goes begging, and the annual spell of unconditional laziness has not yet come to an end, so that employers of labour are at their wits' end.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 30th January says:—There is some friction between Japan and China with respect to the Commercial Treaty now being negotiated. It is stated that Li Hung-chang, the Chinese plenipotentiary, refuses to agree to the proposal to confer rights of extraterritoriality on Japanese residing in the new Settlements, and also declines to apply the most-favoured-nation clause to Japan as regards Customs duties, holding that Japanese should be distinguished from Europeans and Americans. Baron Hayashi, the Japanese plenipotentiary, has replied, and declines to retire from the position taken up, asserting that the Chinese are attempting to evade the provisions of Baku Treaty.

The Chinese calendar appears an uncertain quantity. A few days ago we received from a Chinese correspondent a letter pointing out the variations in various editions published in Hongkong and at the Coast Ports. A list of thirteen calendars was given. Eight of them give 30 days for the first month and five 29 days. For the second month all are agreed. For the third month one gives 29 days, all the others 30 days. For the fourth month one gives 29 days, all the others 30 days. For the fifth and sixth months there is entire agreement. For the seventh month one gives 30 days and the others 29. For the eighth month one gives 29 days, the others 30. The remaining months are the same in all except that one does not give the twelfth month and another omits the eleventh and twelfth, this edition, issued by the Custom House, apparently giving only so much of the Chinese year as is included in the English year. Among the Chinese at Sourabaya, we read, differences ran so high as to the precise date of their New Year that some of them telegraphed to Peking for more exact information. The reply gave the 13th February as the date of the Chinese New Year's Day.

PROGRESS IN CHINA.

The tendency in China is much less in favour of progress just now than was hoped would be the case when the Empire lay prostrate at the foot of Japan after a brief but wholly disastrous war. The needs of the country would, it was thought, be so vividly thrown into relief by the shortcomings of the ruling class and the inability of the nation generally, that it was confidently believed the conclusion of peace would prove but the precursor to new and startling changes. Peace has been secured at a somewhat heavy cost, but the lessons of the war are already beginning, apparently, to lose their virtue in producing an impression on the official mind. At any rate there would seem to be no general adoption of any systematic changes; all the movements in the direction of improvement consist in isolated efforts by individuals to adopt such and such an invention, more with the hope of securing some immediate personal gain or advantage than with any design of benefiting the people generally. The Central Government has formulated no scheme whereby the communications and defences of the Empire generally can be secured, the administration reformed, the finances improved and revenue increased, and the education of the officials and people in Western science and learning promoted. In place of such a project we find, after considerable delay, such an undertaking as a railway to connect Tientsin with Lukou, near Peking, concerning which there has been as much fuss as if it had been resolved to construct the whole of the long talked of Grand Trunk Railway from Peking to Canton, at length set on foot. It has been left to the Viceroy CHANG CHI-HUNG to find the money to construct the proposed section to connect the capital with the Yangtze and Central China. A railway from Shanghai to Soochow is also being pushed on with, the incentive for this work being the determination to take the wind out of the Japanese sails by rendering the newly acquired treaty privilege of steam navigation from Shanghai to Soochow as valueless as possible, by making still more rapid communication by land. Different provincial officials are seeking and obtaining ready permission to start new enterprises which seem to them to promise to turn out good investments or to yield large squeezes when established. Thus, the result of the experiment of the Mint at Canton, which has proved highly remunerative, has induced other mandarins to establish similar establishments elsewhere. Permission has just been accorded to the father of SHENG Taotai to erect a Mint at Soochow to coin dollars and subsidiary money. The plant has been ordered from Europe and will arrive very shortly. His Excellency CHAO, Governor of Kiangsu, has advanced Tls. 50,000 towards the enterprise, and will no doubt receive a substantial share of the profits. It is tolerably clear that the undertaking is not intended to increase the provincial revenues, but will become a profitable private monopoly. The supply of silver dollars, very desirable for the purposes of trade, will form a secondary object of the Mint. The production of a subsidiary coinage is undoubtedly the prime motive of the originators of the project, and it is only to be hoped that they will be content with the handsome profit legitimately resulting. There is always the temptation, well nigh irresistible to all Chinese, of augmenting this profit by debasing the coinage, through the use of inferior metal. Under CHANG CHI-HUNG's administration this would have been

a risky proceeding at Canton, and was not attempted, but whether the SHENGs will be as particular is another matter. We note that it is proposed now to discontinue the services of European officers on board Chinese steamers on the Yangtze; and this step, if taken, would be introductory to their dismissal from the whole of the China Merchants' S. N. Co.'s fleet. This kind of economy is pretty certain to prove costly in the long run, but the reign of LI HUNG-CHANG, who, whatever his faults, and however much he hated the *fan-kwei*, had some strong common sense, is over now, and various lesser lights, each with his little axe to grind, have stepped into his place. The result of a number of experiments, chiefly undertaken from greed of gain or to gratify whims, is likely to be disastrous to the country, for if most of them prove failures, as they may safely be expected to do, they will only serve to intensify the hatred of change and scorn of foreign inventions still felt by the large majority of the ruling classes.

THE GOVERNOR ON QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON is not very consistent in his complaints against Queen's College. His Excellency at the beginning of his speech on Thursday said he wanted to tell those assembled what the College was established for and to ask them whether it was fulfilling its object. The statement of the object of the College was made by quoting some high flown sentences from Sir GEORGE BOWEN's speech at the opening of the building now occupied by the institution. His Excellency seems to be under the impression that the establishment of the College dates from that event, but that is quite a mistake; it had existed for many years previously and done admirable work as the Central School. When it changed its home into a new building Sir GEORGE BOWEN dubbed it a college, and a college it has since been in name, though remaining in fact what it was before, a school giving an elementary and secondary education. Sir GEORGE BOWEN also expressed the hope that Victoria (now Queen's) College would be developed at some future date into Victoria University, and Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON now complains that that hope is not in course of realisation. The Education Commission which sat in 1882 pronounced against elevating the Central School into a collegiate institution and expressed the opinion that the most advantageous employment of the public funds would be the development of the institution on its present basis. And Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON himself, after complaining in the earlier part of his speech that the school has not developed into a collegiate institution turning out pupils who would have the honour of introducing into their native land the results of the humane and enlightened jurisprudence and of the improved medical science of modern Europe, or as surveyors or engineers helping to cover the vast Empire of China with a network of railways and telegraphs, concludes by expressing the belief that the curriculum actually in force is too ambitious. While stating the alleged object of the College in the words of Sir GEORGE BOWEN, the whole tenor of the Governor's speech goes to show that that is not what the object should be. And, moreover, His Excellency seems to have overlooked a qualification introduced by Sir GEORGE BOWEN into his remarks on the occasion referred to, namely, that the pupils of the school could only be expected to develop into jurists, doctors, and civil

engineers by completing their education in England. The real substance of His Excellency's complaint against the school, however, is that "the efforts of the Government to promote the spread of the English language have resulted in a complete failure in making any impression on the Chinese speaking residents of the colony." The statement is not strictly accurate, the considerable number of English speaking Chinese in the colony being evidence against it. However, the slow progress made in the spread of the English language amongst the native population is always a safe card to play and will be for many generations to come. The English language has not yet altogether supplanted Welsh and Gaelic in Great Britain itself and it is quite utopian to expect that within any measurable length of time it will supplant Chinese in Hongkong. If it were given to H.E. the Governor to return to the colony a couple of hundred years hence we have no doubt he would still find the bulk of the people speaking Chinese, as they do to-day. The success in promoting the use of the English language amongst the natives, therefore cannot be absolute, but must continue relative only, and it is always open to critics to stigmatise merely relative success as complete or partial failure.

Queen's College has done and is doing excellent work. No doubt the institution, like all other institutions, is susceptible to improvement, and the Governing Body and the Head Master, with the Examiners' report before them, will be able to make arrangements to amend the weak spots that the last examination has brought to light; but that the teaching of English in the school is very far from being a total failure, as H.E. the Governor represents, is shown by the following extract from the Examiners' report:—"Shakespeare.—Three Acts from 'Henry V.' were offered by Class I. The papers exhibit painstaking and careful work both on the part of masters and boys. The best average was obtained in section I. C.A.; in this section every boy passed; one received 90 and another 82 per cent. marks. It is worthy of note that a question requiring candidates to summarise in their own words 'the arguments of a long speech was answered by the majority with marked success.' The question suggests itself whether the boys who were so successful were Chinese or European. Assuming them to have been Chinese the passage quoted must be considered very high praise; and boys who can summarise in their own words the argument of a long speech display a better grip of the language and a higher cultivation of the intellect than if they were merely able to patter off a few isolated facts as to the dimensions of the British Empire. 'Do you know,' said Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, addressing the boys on Thursday, 'that during the Queen's reign her Colonial subjects of European descent have increased from two millions to upwards of nine millions? Do you know that during the same period her Asiatic subjects have increased from ninety-six millions to upwards of two hundred and fifty-five millions; and that other races in her colonies have increased from two millions to more than seven millions? Are any of you boys aware that the area governed by Her Majesty in India is 1,383,000 square miles, and in the colonies it is upwards of 7,000,000 square miles? Do you know that Her Majesty's possessions embrace one-fifth of the habitable globe, and are three times greater than the Roman Empire at the height of its success and greatness?' The boys will no doubt take His Excellency's word for

it, but these are not facts that one usually carries in his head. When required they are to be found in books of reference, to which, we venture to think, His Excellency must have had recourse in preparing his speech. If the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils were unexpectedly put through an examination on the statistics of the Empire it is safe to say that not one of them would succeed in passing. In the case of boys the greatness of the Empire should be impressed upon their minds by other means than dry statistics with figures running into the millions, which convey no concrete idea. There is one other point of detail in His Excellency's speech to which reference may be made. His Excellency objects to the teaching of Latin and Euclid in the school. Some years ago exception was taken in this column to the teaching of Latin to Chinese boys, and we then learned that Latin was not taught to Chinese boys but only to European boys. We are not aware if any change has been made since that time, but if it is still the fact that the language is taught to European boys only we should be inclined to advocate its continuance. As to Euclid, it is difficult to understand on what ground His Excellency objects to that subject. It affords good training for the mind, and the examiners in their report say "Euclid being such excellent and simple English prose it seems desirable that it should be taught." They add, however, that at present the time spent upon it is, in the majority of cases, wasted. This seems to point to a defect in the system of teaching, but that can be amended, it is to be hoped, without eliminating the subject altogether. His Excellency says his only desire is to leave Queen's College in a better and more influential position and to make it a better and more influential institution than he found it. We hope the desire may be fulfilled, but His Excellency confesses that he is no educationist, a fact which is made apparent by his speech on Thursday, and the value of his criticism on points of detail must therefore be appraised accordingly.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE AND EUROPEAN EDUCATION.

At various times in the history of the colony the education of the children of European residents has engaged public attention, but of late the subject has been little heard of, the parents being apparently satisfied, so far as boys are concerned, with the facilities that have for the last few years been offered at Queen's College. Formerly a strong objection was entertained to sending European boys to that institution on account of their enforced association there with Chinese boys. When the Hongkong Public School was established in 1879 this was one of the reasons urged in favour of the scheme, Bishop BURDON remarking at the public meeting held in support of the new institution that the Central School, as Queen's College was then called, was suitable for the mass of Chinese and other residents here, but was not suitable for our own children if we could possibly provide them with one more suitable. That was the general feeling at the time and the Hongkong Public School was accordingly established. For a few years the school was a success and was held in high appreciation by the parents, but it then commenced to languish and finally passed out of existence. Into the reasons of the failure of a scheme which at first promised so hopefully it is unnecessary now to enquire. The functions

formerly fulfilled by the Public School have of late years been fulfilled by Queen's College, where separate classes have been established for Europeans, but in the Examiners' report published the other day suggestions are made of a re-arrangement that may not prove agreeable to European parents. We believe the Examiners say, "that much good might be effected, and the standard of efficiency raised, if the ability and energy of the European staff were directed more to the Chinese boys. And we are not confident that it is for the welfare of the School, or in the interests of the education of the Chinese, that the non-Chinese boys should be in separate classes, and consequently the whole time of two European masters given entirely to them." This is a matter on which we think European parents ought to have something to say. The Examiners make no remark as to the interests of the education of Europeans, but it is a subject which ought not to be overlooked in the educational system of an English colony. From the European point of view the present arrangement may be regarded as meeting the requirements of the case fairly well, though an entirely separate school might perhaps be still more satisfactory, and this, we think, is what ought to be demanded if the separate classes at Queen's College are to be done away with. That, however, would involve additional expense and on that account would not be favourably regarded by the Government. The best solution, we think, would be to leave well alone and allow the principle of separate classes at Queen's College to continue, increasing the teaching staff of the Chinese department if the detachment of two teachers for the European department renders the present staff insufficient. We would suggest, too, that in all reports having reference to the College the distinction between the European and Chinese departments should be plainly indicated. In the Examiners' report for the present year, for instance, the public cannot tell which passages refer to the Chinese classes and which to the European. Those familiar with the internal arrangements of the school may be able to recognise the separate classes by their numbers, but that is not the case with the general public, and as the European community is specially interested in the European classes a separate report on those classes would be much appreciated. Formerly the College failed to command the interest of very large numbers of Europeans because, although nominally open to all, the institution was in practice almost exclusively Chinese, and the complaint was constantly heard that while the Government did so much for the education of Chinese children it did almost nothing for the education of European children. Gradually and very quietly a great change has been effected and Queen's College has become a public school for Europeans as well as for Chinese. It believes the European community, therefore, to be on their guard lest the advantages they have gained should be wrested from them by making association with the Chinese compulsory on all European boys attending the school. Most Europeans have an insuperable objection to such association. The Retrenchment Committee, in the section of their report relating to education, said:—"We are of opinion that that fine establishment (Queen's College) should be so modified and re-organised that it could be extensively availed of by the children of Europeans, as the results, whatever they may be, tend at present far more to benefit China and the Coast Ports

than the colony which incurs the expense." The present Examiners seem to take a diametrically opposite view and to think it is the Chinese only that should be considered. The Retrenchment Committee further recommended that a searching inquiry by skilled and competent persons should be made into the charges against the school; and in view of the present controversy it might be well if a Commission were appointed, the evidence to be taken in public. In the meantime the public should be warned against being carried away by any wave of prejudice or misleading statements that may be made. Seventeen or eighteen years ago, in Dr. STEWART's time, precisely the same complaints were brought against the Central School that are now brought against Queen's College, but the result of the controversy then initiated was that Dr. STEWART was supported by public opinion. The institution has since been developed entirely on the lines laid down by Dr. STEWART, except in so far as regards the formation of separate classes for Europeans. It must be noted, too, that the critics of the school are agreed amongst themselves on scarcely a single point. The Retrenchment Committee say the benefits of the institution should be confined to Hongkong. The Governor on the other hand says the object of the school is to turn out pupils who shall introduce into China European principles of jurisprudence, medicine, and engineering, and His Excellency complains it is not fulfilling its object. His Excellency, moreover, is not consistent with himself, saying in one breath that the institution aims too low and in another that it aims too high. Then, again, the Retrenchment Committee recommend that the school should be so conducted that it could be availed of by European children, while the present Examiners doubt whether it is to the interest of the school that there should be European classes. A Commission composed, not of Government officials who may have strong opinions for or against the school, but of common sense business men, might perhaps be able to sift these contradictory views and arrive at some practical conclusion that would satisfy the general public—who, as the Governor said, want to get the worth of their money—either that the Queen's College is fulfilling its objects or, if not, what are the alterations required, and whether, as the Governor contends, the aim should be to produce lawyers, doctors, and engineers for China, or simply to give an English education for the children of the colony.

DR. CANTLIE AND HIS FADS.

The high appreciation in which Dr. CANTLIE is held in this colony was strikingly shown on Wednesday (5th Feb.) on the occasion of the presentation of addresses and testimonials to him by the community and by the College of Medicine for Chinese and the staff of the Alice Memorial and Nether-sole Hospitals. No man who has ever resided in the colony has made his name more of a household word than the worthy doctor who leaves us to-morrow, and he will carry with him the best wishes and kindest regards of the whole community. When the Chairman of Wednesday's meeting remarked that the social, scientific, and literary success of our great empire beyond the sea is due to such men as JAMES CANTLIE, he uttered no mere hyperbole, but spoke strictly within the limits of absolute fact. It is such men as Dr. CANTLIE, endowed with a vast fund of vital energy, keen intelligence, and enterprise

that keep the world moving, and to these endowments we must add in the case of Dr. CANTLIE that of goodness of heart, ever prompting to kind deeds. The eulogiums passed upon him by Mr. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., and the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART will be endorsed by everyone. We do not propose to-day to travel again over the same ground, but rather to note one or two controversial matters introduced by Dr. CANTLIE in his reply. It is one of his qualities to provoke discussion, and his speech on Wednesday was no exception to the rule.

Dr. CANTLIE says he has been "severely criticised and the newspapers have also poured criticism upon him, and if he had listened to them none of the 'CANTLIE fads' would ever have come off." We doubt that, because he has more often met with support than opposition in his projects. "Obstacles," he went on to say, "act but as stimulants: criticism is either useful in suggestion, or he treats it with the motto 'they say—what say they—let them say.'" The colony has perhaps never contained a keener critic than Dr. CANTLIE himself and criticism was not wanting in his speech on Thursday; some of it may perhaps be found useful in suggestion and as to the remainder of it the subjects may possibly meet it with the motto quoted by the doctor himself. His humorous reference to the Public Works Department as a producer of disease can hardly be dignified by the name of criticism, and, though it served to raise a laugh at the moment, cannot be justified either by fact or theory. The Public Works Department is open to criticism on many points, but extravagant abuse defeats its own object. As to the Vaccine Institute, it seemed rather a trumpery subject to which to devote so much attention on such an occasion. The cultivation of an adequate supply of vaccine lymph of good quality is no doubt very important, but now that we have an Institute specially for the purpose, surely the authorities ought to be able to arrange the details of its working, which can hardly be elevated to the rank of a first class public question. Passing to another subject, Dr. CANTLIE recommends us all to take more holidays, which is very excellent advice in theory, the only difficulty lying in its application. He asks us also "not to forget that the Portuguese deserve consideration." "Many a man, in your offices," he continues, "has been ten, fifteen, twenty, ay, twenty-five years without a holiday except on medical certificate." Gentlemen, remember of what blood you are—sons of men who abolished slavery—and do not allow this form of modern slavery to creep into the customs of our daily life unheeded and unchallenged. No employer, we think, would refuse any reasonable application for leave; there is no question of slavery about it, but the difficulty is that there is little or no inducement to take short annual holidays in this part of the world. In England a young clerk with a few pounds in his pocket can go to the seaside or other holiday resort for a week or two, enjoy himself, and in every way benefit by the change, but in Hongkong Japan is our nearest holiday resort and travelling there and back occupies from ten days to a fortnight and the cost is a larger item than in the short trips made by the bulk of holiday makers at home. Macao is within easy reach, it is true, but a week end there is as much as most persons care for.

Dr. CANTLIE next referred to the Pokfulam water supply and residence at the Peak. What he recommends is that the reservoir at Pokfulam should be discontinued as a source

of supply for potable water to the colony, partly because it stands in danger of pollution from the houses already situated within the gathering area and partly because the prohibition of further building within that area prevents the opening up of eligible sites where "taipans and others" could enjoy cool nights and where their children could live and grow in the best climate in Southern China. Now in the first place, the colony cannot possibly dispense with the Pokfulam reservoir and as the population increases the storage there will most probably have to be increased by another reservoir above the existing one; and, in the second place, the risk of pollution from the houses situated within the gathering area has been reduced to infinitesimal proportions by the precautions which have been taken to prevent sewage finding its way on the hillside. The decision not to allow any more houses in the gathering ground is, however, a wise one. "Taipans and others" can find plenty of sites for hill residences in localities a little further afield, and the suggestion that an important water supply should be abandoned in favour of residential sites for a few "taipans and others" seems to us outrageous. Dr. CANTLIE says he had the whole train laid for the abolition of Pokfulam reservoir in 1889, but a mere accident caused the miscarriage of the measure and he failed. The accident was the breaking of the Tytarn conduit in the great rainstorm of 1889. That visitation, therefore, was not without its good effects and the colony has reason to congratulate itself on being thereby spared from this particular "CANTLIE fad," which, had it been carried into effect, would have outweighed all the good of the doctor's other fads. Where would the colony have been during the last few dry seasons had we had no Pokfulam reservoir?

Enough, however, of adverse criticism. Wherever the doctor is there will be argument, but argument without rancour and leading generally to some useful result. He could not forego argument even in his farewell speech, and we have not hesitated to join issue with him on those points where his arguments seemed unsound, but we yield to no one in our admiration for Dr. CANTLIE taken all round. We thank him for "fads" such as the College of Medicine for Chinese, the Peak Hospital, the Public Library, the Vaccine Institute, and the healthy influence he has exercised in bringing about sanitary improvements and creating sound public opinion on various questions of local and imperial interest; and we would again echo the good wishes expressed towards him at the enthusiastic meeting which assembled on Wednesday to bid him farewell.

VISCOUNT MIURA AND THE MURDER OF THE QUEEN OF KOREA.

The judgment of the Preliminary Court at Hiroshima acquitting Viscount MIURA and forty-seven others of the charges brought against them in connection with the Seoul *émiscue* of the 8th October has now been published, and a very extraordinary document it is. It sets out that at the instance of the Public Procurator the accused were charged with assassination and instigation to rebellion, and then goes on to narrate the facts as found in evidence. The interest of the case, for foreign readers at all events, centres entirely in the person of the late Minister to Korea. Viscount MIURA, then, "saw to his insupportable grief and indignation that things in Korea were getting worse and worse." Having received a secret

application from the TAI WON KUN for assistance in his attempt to force reforms in the Court, he met the Japanese Legation Secretary and the Japanese Military Adviser to Korea and these three men decided to assist the TAI WON KUN in his attempt to enter the palace at Seoul by availing themselves of the Hun-ryon-tai troops as well as some young fanatics, at the same time instructing the Japanese troops in Seoul to secretly assist them and to take an opportunity of killing the Queen. The judgment then goes on to give details of the plot, MIURA's "instigation" or "instruction" to kill the Queen being thrice mentioned, but "in spite of all the facts above mentioned the evidence is not sufficient to prove that any of the accused actually accomplished a criminal deed" and the charge is accordingly dismissed.

A more remarkable judgment, we should think, has never been made public. The court in effect finds the charge proved, but finds also, without any statement of its reasons, that the offence charged does not constitute a criminal act. It seems extraordinary that in a charge of such importance, with a clear *prima facie* case against the accused, a court of first instance should have taken upon itself to decide on the question of law. The proceedings in preliminary investigations in Japan are not conducted in public, and the press is consequently unable to report either the evidence or arguments, so that in the case in question we have only the judgment of the court to go upon, and, on the facts as stated in the judgment, there is only one means by which the court could have arrived at the decision it did, namely, that under Japanese law an Ambassador is licensed to assassinate or instigate to rebellion. The *Japan Mail*, whose utterances are generally understood to reflect Japanese official views, writing after the verdict but before the publication of the text of the judgment, said:—"From the first it seemed more than doubtful that Viscount MIURA could be found guilty of a criminal offence. He had unquestionably defied the instructions given to him by his Government, and by employing the military force at his disposal to promote an unlawful *coup d'état*, had caused serious diplomatic complications and brought his country into disrepute. But such acts are not criminal, nor can an ordinary law court take cognisance of them. Their punishment rests with the Administration. Hence Viscount MIURA's instant recall and his summary dismissal from office seemed to represent the limits of the penalty to which he was properly liable. The Japanese Government, however, thought differently. In their eyes it appeared absolutely necessary that all available judicial processes should be employed to establish either the existence or absence of a legal connection between Viscount MIURA's conduct and the shocking incident that lent such a sinister character to the *coup d'état* assisted by him. Acting on that belief, criminal proceedings were instituted against him by the Public Procurator. An impression prevailed at one time that the accusation might extend even to treason, since, in flagrant abuse of the powers delegated to him, he had employed the country's forces in a manner calculated to endanger public peace and good order. But that form of charge was evidently deemed unwarrantable, and in the end, as we understand, the Hiroshima law court was invited to consider only whether the aid lent by the Minister to the *coup d'état* did not constitute him an accessory to the murder of the Queen. To establish that, evidence must have been

"forthcoming that Her Majesty's death either had formed part of the original programme, as submitted to Viscount MIURA, or should have been anticipated as a result of the methods employed in carrying out that programme. It is easy to see that such evidence could scarcely be procurable. In point of fact, even in the heat of excitement caused by the first receipt of the extraordinary news from Seoul, no one acquainted with Viscount MIURA's character believed for an instant that he had been privy, in any sense, to the murder of the Queen, and even those unacquainted with him saw clearly that he could never have deliberately consented to associate a barbarous and heinous act with a coup d'état undertaken nominally in the cause of civilized progress."

As a matter of fact the evidence shewed that Her Majesty's death did form part of the original programme, and those who could not believe for an instant that Viscount MIURA had been privy in any sense to the murder of the Queen were entirely mistaken. The judgment was published in the *Japan Gazette* on the 24th January, but up to the 25th it had not appeared in the *Japan Mail* nor had it been further commented upon by that journal. What course the Japanese Government will pursue in the matter remains to be seen, but it has been placed in a very unpleasant position. Had the ex-Minister been convicted and punished the Government might have disclaimed all moral responsibility for his infamous conduct, but now that he has been acquitted it would seem that assassination and incitement to rebellion must be considered recognised weapons of Japanese diplomacy. Dismissal from office is a penalty that may be inflicted for mere incompetence, disobedience of orders, or unseemly conduct, and it cannot be considered any adequate punishment in the case of Viscount MIURA.

MARINE COURTS OF INQUIRY.

The mercantile marine complain, and we are inclined to think not without some reason, of the severity of Courts of Inquiry in dealing with the certificates of masters and officers in cases of accident to vessels occurring through error of judgment or neglect on the part of those responsible for their navigation. It is alleged that in cases where, under parallel circumstances, an officer in the Royal Navy would be simply censured or perhaps deprived of a few years' seniority, the Marine Courts of Inquiry inflict practical ruin on officers or commanders in the mercantile marine by cancelling or suspending their certificates. Commanders and officers would probably be the last to contend that there should not be adequate inquiry in all cases of serious accident or that clear dereliction of duty should not be visited with punishment, for a due recognition of responsibility is essential to the maintenance of a high standard in the profession, but excessive severity is at once unjust and inadvisable. Quite a novel point, however, is raised by the finding of the Court that investigated the circumstances attending the recent stranding of the steamer *On Sang*, and one which should command the attention of the Board of Trade and of all mercantile marine associations. In opening the proceedings the President stated that the late captain of the steamer had left the colony and that under the circumstances he had called the first and second officers and first and second engineers in order to obtain all the information available. The finding of the Court was as follows:—"From the evidence before it the Court has formed

"the opinion that the master would have displayed better judgment if he had not attempted to make the port at night, as his local knowledge did not justify him in doing so. Nor does it appear that any special precautions were taken under the circumstances. The master, however, has not appeared before the Court, and the Court is informed that he has left the port, although there were grounds for believing that before he left he was aware that a Court would be appointed to investigate the casualty to his ship. His departure, therefore, has the appearance of an unwillingness to appear before such a Court. In his absence, however, and without his having an opportunity of making a defence, the Court does not deal with his certificate. The officers appear to have conducted themselves in a proper and becoming manner under the circumstances." We have no desire to comment on the conduct of the master, either as regards the accident or his leaving the colony; but the finding suggests the question whether a master who faces a Court of Inquiry in a mainly straightforward manner is to be placed at a disadvantage as compared with the man who absents himself. The certificate of the late master of the *On Sang* presumably remains valid, while it might have been suspended or otherwise dealt with had he appeared before the Court. It does not necessarily follow that the finding of the Court would have been adverse to the master had he remained, but by going away he seems to have avoided all risk in the matter. If this is so it appears that some alteration of the law is required, otherwise it cannot be maintained that the Courts of Inquiry are in a position to administer equal justice in all cases coming under their cognisance.

THE SHANGHAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

In another column we reproduce the minutes of a meeting of the Committee of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce, in which several matters of interest to Hongkong are referred to. The Shanghai Chamber has materially increased its usefulness by adopting the system of publishing its minutes and we would once again direct the attention of the Hongkong Chamber to this excellent example. It would no doubt be inconvenient and undesirable to admit reporters to the committee meetings, but the publication of an officially prepared synopsis of the minutes allows of as much being set out as may be proper while subjects as to which it is necessary to maintain secrecy can be reserved until they are finally closed. One of the subjects dealt with at the meeting referred to was the preferential treatment given to United States and Continental shippers as compared with British shippers. This subject had been brought to the attention of the Shanghai Chamber by the Hongkong Chamber, and the latter body is to be congratulated on having bestirred itself in a matter so vitally affecting British trade. The Shanghai Chamber, however, is unsympathetic and does not see its way to do anything. This may be because the Chamber is a cosmopolitan body and the grievances of British shippers are a purely national question; but it is to be hoped that the subject will not be allowed to drop. If the Shanghai Chamber cannot take the matter up perhaps the branch of the China Association there might see its way to do so, and in any case it will no doubt receive attention at the hands of

Mr. BRENAN, the Commissioner appointed to inquire into the condition of British trade in China, and the committee which has been formed in Hongkong to assist him in his investigations so far as this colony is concerned. Shipowners no doubt find it difficult to make their vessels pay, but the complaint of British shippers is, not that the rates of freight are too high, but that the same rates are not charged all round, Continental and United States shippers being accorded a preference. There must be something wrong in a system that results in giving a bounty to foreign trade and steamship owners would do well to deal with the matter themselves before Governmental interference is asked for.

Another subject dealt with in the minutes of the Shanghai Chamber is the mail contract. The London Post Office asks if it would not be possible to shorten the stoppages of the mail steamers at Hongkong when the contract is renewed; also whether Hongkong might not be made the terminal point instead of Shanghai. The Committee of the Shanghai Chamber resolved "to send an energetic protest against such innovations as being decidedly detrimental to foreign trade in China." The protest is presumably directed chiefly to the suggested abandonment of Shanghai as the terminal port, a point on which our Northern friends cannot fail to feel strongly. Without a contract mail there would be similar irregularity in the service at Shanghai to that which has caused so much grumbling in Japan since the abandonment of the contract for the regular conveyance of the mails to that country. It would, moreover, be derogatory to British prestige to have French and German mail packets running to Shanghai and no British packets. The protest of the Shanghai Chamber is therefore fully justified. There is another point, however, in connection with the mail contract to which attention might be usefully directed, and that is the necessity for a regular weekly mail homeward and outward. Formerly, when the French mail left on the same day of the week as the English mail every one was satisfied. Of late years, however, the French Company have apparently not found this arrangement to their interest, and while the English mail has left on Thursday the day of departure of the French mail has been Wednesday, thus making alternate intervals of eight days and six days, instead of a uniform interval of seven days. A further change in the French service is now announced; the steamers will still leave on Wednesday, but at such an early hour in the morning that it will in practice be necessary for firms to close their mails the previous night, thus making the mail intervals in reality nine days and five days. Inconvenience is also caused by the irregularity in the arrivals of the outward mails. Since it no longer suits the French to run at corresponding intervals with the British packets the appropriate remedy would be to have a weekly British packet. This, of course, raises the question of cost, but this, we think, ought not to be a bar to the suggested improvement of the service. There are already weekly mails to Colombo and with the frequent communication between that port and Hongkong it would not be difficult or costly to introduce such regularity as would suffice to extend the weekly mail service to Hongkong, if not to Shanghai.

M. C. Gauthier, French Vice-Consul at Pakhoi and Tongking, has been appointed Consul at Suez and will shortly leave for his new post.

SETTLEMENT OF THE KIRIN LAND CASE.

The prompt settlement of the Kirin case reported yesterday in our special telegram from Shanghai, is eminently satisfactory and goes to show that British prestige and influence in China are not altogether dead. The settlement could hardly have been arrived at more quickly had the demand been preferred by France or Russia. It may be interesting to briefly restate the facts, which have been already published in these columns. Some five years ago Dr. GREIG, a missionary, was brutally assaulted by some Manchou soldiers belonging to the bodyguard of the Tatar General at Kirin. For that outrage, after long parleying, the Chinese Government agreed to pay \$5,000 as compensation for the injuries sustained by Dr. GREIG and a further sum of \$700 to purchase a site for a new hospital. The purchase of a piece of land was negotiated, the vendor being a man of superior standing named SUNG TSUNG-CHU, who, early in 1895, went with the purchaser to the British Consulate at Newchwang and there filed an affidavit setting forth that he had sold the land voluntarily. The title deeds were then deposited in the Consulate, and, as the sale had previously been specially sanctioned by the Chinese Government, Dr. GREIG naturally imagined that no difficulties would follow. The Kirin authorities, however, refused to recognise the sale. The case was then referred to the British Minister, and by him to the Foreign Office, which insisted on the contract being carried out. The Kirin authorities, however, were still obdurate and not only declined to ratify the sale, but, in December last, subjected SUNG to a disgraceful beating, as if he had been a common criminal. Dr. GREIG, who was present in court at the time, was subjected to personal abuse by the Prefect, who openly referred to him as Devil GREIG. Dr. GREIG reported the matter as speedily as possible to the Consul at Newchwang, and Mr. HOSKIN, having been informed by the Charge d'Affaires at Peking, received instructions to go to Kirin to obtain satisfaction. In this he has been successful in part at least. The land is now being handed over to Dr. GREIG under a purchase agreement, which is a very liberal one in all its terms. It is a pity that the original purchaser is not the man who was so clear when the matter was first brought to himself or the authorities. The information on this point is not yet further particular, but it is clear that the experienced official, who was satisfied with any settlement, has been included in the infliction of such a disgraceful and flagrant outrage.

THE TUNG WAH HOSPITAL COMMISSION.

His Excellency the Governor has been well advised in appointing a Commission to inquire into the organisation and working of the Tung Wah Hospital, and is also to be congratulated on his selection of the commissioners. The Hon. J. H. STEWART-LOCKHART, Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, Hon. C. P. CHATER, Hon. HO KAI, and Hon. A. M. THOMSON may be trusted to deal with the matter from a practical common sense point of view uninfluenced by sentiment or fads. The Commission is to inquire in the first place whether the hospital is fulfilling the object and purpose of its incorporation, and, if so, to inquire whether it can be improved, or, if it is not fulfilling its object and pur-

pose, whether that object and purpose can be fulfilled by any other organization. That the hospital has fulfilled the object with which it was established, we think, hardly admits of dispute: the question is whether the time has not arrived when that object should be reconsidered and enlarged. It has already been recognised that a closer supervision of the institution by qualified medical men than formerly existed is necessary, and steps have been taken to that end, in order to secure a correct registration of deaths, to ascertain at the earliest moment the presence of communicable disease, and to see that proper sanitary precautions are observed in the establishment. The Commission may be able to suggest various improvements in the organisation by which these objects may be more fully attained, but they are not likely to make any suggestion for forcing Western medicine or surgery upon unwilling patients. There is no law in England to compel a man to have his leg cut off if he objects to the operation, or to compel him to swallow any particular medicine, and there ought to be no compulsion in such matters in Hongkong. An exception has to be made to the general rule in cases of communicable disease, when the public safety demands that the State shall step in to prevent the spread of the disease, but in all ordinary cases the fullest freedom should be allowed. It may be very regrettable that a man should prefer roasted cockroaches to castor oil as a medicine, but nevertheless he should be allowed complete freedom in the matter. Everyone must desire the spread of Western medical science amongst the Chinese, but the way to bring that about is, not to exercise compulsion on the people generally, but to train up a respectable and properly instructed class of native practitioners. Hitherto the Government has not done all that it might in that direction.

THE KIRIN OUTRAGE.

FACTORY SETTLEMENT.

The settlement of the Kirin case is a very satisfactory one, and it is to be hoped that it will serve as a warning to other officials who may be tempted to treat foreigners with disrespect. The case was a very serious one, and it is a pity that it should have occurred. The settlement is a very liberal one, and it is to be hoped that it will serve as a warning to other officials who may be tempted to treat foreigners with disrespect. The case was a very serious one, and it is a pity that it should have occurred. The settlement is a very liberal one, and it is to be hoped that it will serve as a warning to other officials who may be tempted to treat foreigners with disrespect.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on Tuesday afternoon in the Council Chamber. Present—His Excellency the Governor, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G., Hon. J. H. STEWART-LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary, Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, Acting Attorney-General, Hon. A. M. THOMSON, Acting Colonial Treasurer, Hon. F. A. COOPER, Director of Public Works, Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY, Harbour Master, Hon. COMMANDER W. C. H. HASTINGS, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, Hon. C. P. CHATER, Hon. HO KAI, Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G., Hon. J. J. BELL IRVING, Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE, Acting Clerk of Councils.

NEW MEMBER.

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, took the oath of allegiance and his seat on his appointment as Acting Attorney-General.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

PAPEERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to lay the following papers on the table:—The report on the widows and orphans fund for 1895; the report of the Acting Superintendent of the Fire Brigade for 1895; the report of the Head Master of Queen's College and the Examiners appointed by the Governing Body for 1895; and two statements—an amended statement of assets and liabilities to December 31st 1894, and an amended statement showing the total revenue and expenditure in the year 1894. With regard to the two last papers I may explain that in the statement which was laid before the Legislative Council on the 12th December the assets and revenue of the colony were overstated to the amount of \$8,675.70. This mistake arose through a clerical error, two bills from the Australian Government having been put down as outstanding, whereas the amounts had been actually collected by the Crown Agents. It was thought better to re-publish this statement to allay misapprehension, and the papers are now laid upon the table.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the adoption of the report of the Finance Committee.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.

Financial Minute No. 1 was referred to the Finance Committee.

BONE BOILING AND TALLOW MELTING.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to move that by-laws made by the Sanitary Board under sub-section 11 of section 13 of Ordinance 24 of 1887 referring to the trade of bone boiling, tallow melting, &c., be approved.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to second.

By-laws approved.

THE CLEANSING AND LIME-WHITING OF PREMISES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to move that a by-law made by the Sanitary Board under sub-section 4 of section 13 of Ordinance 24 of 1887 regarding the cleansing and lime-whiting of premises be approved by this Council.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Having in mind the painful experience of the past, and knowing as I do that a few sporadic cases of plague have recently made their appearance, I am loth even to appear to in any way hamper the Government in regard to any measure they may see fit to take with a view of eradicating this disease. I therefore at the present, refrain from criticising these by-laws, though I see serious objections to their operation. I trust, however, that when the Government is satisfied that the colony is thoroughly cleansed, they will consent to reconsider this matter.

By-law approved.

FIRST READING OF BILLS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I rise, your Excellency, to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to prevent doubts as to the validity of documents heretofore sealed with the Seal of the Colonial Court of Admiralty of Hongkong. I propose, Sir, with regard to this Bill and the other Bills which are to be read to-day for the first time to follow what I understand to be the usual course, that is to say, to defer making any remarks which I may have to offer until the second reading. There is a memorandum attached to each of these Bills which will be sufficient to indicate for present purposes the general objects which these Bills are intended to effect.

This Bill and the following were then read for the first time—A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Factors, A Bill entitled an Ordinance for codifying the Law relating to the Sale of Goods, A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the practice as to the vacating of the registration of a Lis pendens, and A Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the extradition of Fugitive Criminals from the territory of the British North Borneo Company.

A PRIVATE BILL.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I have the honour, Sir, to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Incorporation of the President in Hongkong of the Basel Evangelical Missionary Society. All the formalities connected with the introduction of a private Bill have been complied with, and, I understand, to the satisfaction of the hon. and learned member, the Acting Attorney-General. I therefore trust that hon. members will have no objection to the first reading.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I beg to second. Bill read a first time.

THE SUPREME COURT FUNDS ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—With regard to the next item on the agenda, I do not propose to proceed to-day to discuss in Committee the Ordinance to amend the law as to certain moneys paid into the Supreme Court or to the Registrar thereof. My reason for desiring the postponement of going into Committee on this measure is that this Ordinance is framed upon somewhat similar lines to the Ordinance which has been in force in the Straits Settlements for some years past, and I think it probable, therefore, that Mr. Kyshe, the new Registrar of the Supreme Court, who is expected to arrive in a few days, will be able to give me some valuable hints as to the practical manner in which this Ordinance has worked in the Straits Settlements.

ANOTHER "VERY IMPORTANT MEETING."

His EXCELLENCY then left the Council Chamber, when a meeting of the Finance Committee was held. After the meeting his Excellency returned and said—The only matter we have to consider now is the jury list for 1896. As there are no notices or questions for the next meeting, and as a very important meeting of a different sort is to take place next week, and as recently a leading medical gentleman strongly recommended that we should take more holidays, I propose to adjourn the Council until the 3rd of March. (Applause).

THE JURY LIST.

The Council then considered the jury list in private.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned until 3rd March.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held. Hon. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart (Colonial Secretary) presided, and all the members were present.

A NEW LAUNCH FOR THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE PORT.

The CHAIRMAN—I have only one financial minute to bring before the Committee to-day and that is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$7,000 for the construction of a new steam-launch for the Health Officer of the Port. The steam launch which the Health Officer of the port formerly used became too old for the service and was condemned. It was therefore necessary to have a new one, and I now bring this vote before the Committee with the suggestion that it be recommended.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Has the launch been ordered, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN—It has been ordered.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Is it ready?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Who supplied it?

The CHAIRMAN—I think—the Hon. Harbour Master will correct me if I am wrong—I think the Dock Company supplied the launch.

The HARBOUR MASTER—Yes, the Dock Company.

Vote recommended.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Committee then adjourned.

The store of the Japan Photographic Co. (Mr. J. Himen) in Main St., Yokohama, was burnt down on the 23rd Jan., and the adjoining house considerably damaged. Rokunosuke, the Japanese foreman of the Brigade, was fatally injured by the fall of a coping stone on his head. Mr. Himen is insured with Ahrens & Co. for \$6,000, and the next house was insured with the same firm and with Messrs. Kingdom & Schwabe.

SUPREME COURT.

5th February.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT—HON. W. M. GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE.)

CHAU TSEUNG FAT, APPELLANT, v. INSPECTOR MCEWEN, RESPONDENT.

This was an appeal from the decision of the Acting Police Magistrate, who sentenced the appellant to seven days' imprisonment for using an insulting expression in the presence of the Court.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General) appeared for the respondent, and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Ellis, of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office), represented the appellant.

Mr. Francis said the appeal was brought under the Magistrates Ordinance, sections 99 to 110, and it originated in the following way. On the 14th January the appellant was present in the Police Court during the hearing of a case in which he was not directly concerned. He had gone there as a friend of the person who had been summoned to answer a charge of keeping false weights and measures. After the case was concluded the defendant, who had been fined, and the appellant were leaving the court when the appellant was heard by two constables to make use of a certain expression. The constables were sitting close to the door, and the remark was reported to the Magistrate and the appellant was at a subsequent date brought before the Court, charged under section 90 of the Police Magistrates Ordinance with having behaved in an insulting manner and with having used an insulting expression in the presence of the Magistrate when acting in the discharge of any magisterial duty, and sentenced to seven days' imprisonment. Notice of appeal was immediately given on a question of fact.

The Acting Chief Justice—Is this not an appeal both on fact and law?

Mr. Francis—Yes, my lord; if your Lordship will allow me—

The PUISNE JUDGE—I have not received a copy at all of the notice of appeal. Both Judges ought to have a copy; all I have is the Magistrate's statement.

Mr. Francis expressed regret and, continuing, said that later on it was thought advisable in the interest of the appellant to appeal on a question of law as well as on a question of fact, and so leave to appeal on a question of law was applied for and granted.

The PUISNE JUDGE—Are you going on the question of fact?

Mr. Francis—I do not intend to press seriously on the question of fact, because I am bound to say that on the evidence I do not think the Magistrate could have come to any other conclusion than that the appellant had made use of certain expressions in court.

The Acting Chief Justice—On the question of fact the only point for us to decide would be whether there was sufficient evidence for the Magistrate to come to the conclusion he did.

Mr. Francis—There was abundant evidence to justify the Magistrate in coming to the conclusion he did, but on the question of fact there is also the point whether the Magistrate, in the capacity of the jury, could find that the appellant had misbehaved himself or that he had used a threatening expression which was insulting to the Court.

The PUISNE JUDGE—In the presence of the Magistrate.

Mr. Francis—Yes, in the presence of the Magistrate. There is also the point of law whether it was in the presence of the Magistrate.

The Acting Chief Justice—Eliminating the words of section 90 which are not essential to this case the words of the section are—"If any person uses any insulting expression in the presence of a Magistrate when acting in the discharge of any Magisterial duty, such Magistrate may summarily sentence the offender," &c.

Mr. Francis—Yes, but to ascertain the meaning of this expression the words cannot be dissociated from the other words in the same section and from the apparent object and pur-

pose for which the section was passed; neither can they be entirely dissociated from the general law that regulates proceedings in contempt of court cases. Of course the object of this section must be and is entirely the same as the object for which the general law for contempt of court exists—to prevent any interference with the legal procedure or with the operations of the court. To prevent interference with the course of justice is the sole object for which the entire law with reference to contempt of court exists.

The Acting Chief Justice—And to maintain the dignity of justice.

Mr. Francis—Yes, and to maintain the dignity of justice, because if the dignity of the Court were not maintained the Court would not be able to efficiently administer justice.

The Acting Chief Justice—There are three heads in the section—(1) using the expression to a Magistrate, (2) concerning a Magistrate, and (3) in the presence of the Magistrate. You cannot contend that if the Magistrate was rather deaf a man can keep up a running commentary himself.

Mr. Francis—No, because that would be insulting to the Magistrate and would interfere with the proper administration of justice.

The Acting Chief Justice—The words alleged to have been used, and which I understand you do not dispute were used, were not such expressions as "—it" or "D— it," which are not right and proper, but they applied to some person; they were intended to apply to Inspector Stanton, who had just been giving evidence. They must apply to somebody, and I don't think you can apply them to anybody else but Stanton.

Mr. Francis—They applied to Inspector Stanton.

The Acting Chief Justice—If the Magistrate is sitting on the bench and an expression is used in not sufficiently loud tones for the Magistrate to hear, is not that using an insulting expression in the presence of the Magistrate?

Mr. Francis—Literally it is. But I ask you whether these words were really used in the presence of the Magistrate.

The Acting Chief Justice—If the Magistrate was present, yes. The Ordinance does not say "in the hearing of the Magistrate."

Mr. Francis argued that "in the presence of the Court" was not a translation of "*in facie curie*," and that an inferior court had no power to punish for contempt of court.

The Acting Chief Justice—In England a Magistrate cannot send a man to prison for contempt of court, but in an inferior court a man can be bound over or expelled from the court. We are dealing here with a specific Ordinance. The circumstances here are different, and the Legislature has given certain powers here which are not given in England. We are not here to discuss the policy of the Act, but to administer it.

Mr. Francis said the expressions were used not with reference to the Magistrate, and not in his hearing, and they were heard by only two persons who happened to be within almost touching distance of the speaker. The words were not intended to be heard by the generality of the people in court, and therefore they could not in the least degree bring into contempt the Magistrate, or the Magistrate's decision, or the court in which the Magistrate was sitting. Counsel then quoted Blackstone in support of his argument that the meaning applied to the words "in the face of the court" was that the Court should be able to take immediately cognisance of the words used and to punish without calling any witnesses, and that the Court of its own knowledge knew what had transpired.

The Acting Chief Justice said Blackstone spoke according to the common law of England, and the passage referred to would not apply in this case.

Mr. Francis asked their Lordships to find that the offence was not committed in the presence of the Court unless the Court had direct and immediate cognisance of it.

The Acting Chief Justice—We know that in England there are some very able judges who have been on the bench a long time and are rather deaf. So you mean to say that a man can say what he likes and keep the whole Court laughing because the Judge cannot hear?

Mr. Francis—No, because those Courts have full power to punish.

The Acting Chief Justice—You ask us to find that "in the presence of the Magistrate" means "in the hearing of the Magistrate"?

Mr. Francis—In this particular case, because the matter did not come directly to the notice of the Magistrate himself.

The Puisne Judge—It did come to his notice; they went and told him.

Mr. Francis—I think I said directly to his notice; the Magistrate did not hear what was said. The expression was used *sotto voce* and was only heard by two men. It was not intended to insult the Court or to degrade the administration of justice.

The Acting Chief Justice pointed out that the expression was used in open Court and could be heard by two police officers. Was not that degrading the administration of justice? Would it not be intimidating the Court?

Mr. Francis replied that it would if the expression had been used to a person who was about to give evidence or in such a way as would interfere with the administration of justice. The appellant was really speaking to himself. If he had wanted to insult the Court and to misbehave himself deliberately he would have spoken out in Chinese loud enough to be heard by his countrymen or to someone in particular to show he did intend to offer an insult.

The Acting Puisne Judge—Can you tell us why he was there at all?

Mr. Francis said the appellant was looking after the business the master of which was summoned as the master was away at the time.

The Acting Chief Justice—He went there as a sort of friend and supporter and expressed his indignation against the man who procured the conviction.

The Puisne Judge—It was a gratuitous insult.

After further argument Mr. Francis said the appellant was willing to apologise to the Magistrate, to Mr. Stanton, and to the Court.

The Acting Chief Justice strongly commented upon the fact that in his defence the appellant had not hesitated to suggested conspiracy on the part of the officers, and said this was a wicked and atrocious thing to do.

Mr. Francis concluded by strongly pleading for a reduction of the sentence.

The Acting Chief Justice, in delivering judgment, said—This is an appeal from the decision of the Magistrate who inflicted a sentence of seven days' imprisonment upon the appellant for "having used an insulting expression in the presence of the Magistrate when acting in the discharge of any Magisterial duty." The Ordinance—it is section 90 which I am reading—deals with three offences. "If any person behaves in an insulting manner or uses any threatening or insulting expression in the presence of a Magistrate, when acting in the discharge of any Magisterial duty, such Magistrate may, &c." That is a special power which has been in force in this colony for over twenty years, because I see that this section was taken from Ordinance 16 of 1875. I cannot help thinking that it is partly on account of the existence of that Ordinance in this colony that the Police Magistrate has been able to maintain a proper dignity in his court, which is often crowded by Chinese and others, some of whom occasionally might incline to be disorderly. As regards the facts of the case there appears to be no dispute at all. Inspector Stanton had been giving evidence in a case where a man was charged with having used false weights and measures. The appellant had apparently nothing to do with that case. He seems to have gone up to the court as a sort of friend and supporter of the man who was charged and who was, as I understand from the learned counsel, fined for having these false weights and measures, and the appellant's presence in court was in no way necessary. He was there apparently for the purpose of keeping in countenance his friend, the man who had the false weights and measures. Inspector Stanton having given his evidence, as he was bound to do in the discharge of his duty—not always a pleasant duty—was about to leave the box, when the appellant, who seems to have learnt English, having had the advantage of living in Hongkong a long time, comes out with the expres-

sion "You—son of a—," intending that expression for the witness Stanton. That was no doubt because Stanton had given evidence which tended to the conviction of appellant's friend. The learned counsel for the appellant, who has urged everything that could be urged on behalf of his client, has very straightforwardly and in a manner I should have expected of him admitted that his client had used the expression, that he had alleged that the police trumped up the case to shield themselves, and he also admits that that charge against the police was false, and that he did use the expression. Under these circumstances all the learned counsel could do was to argue that the words "in the presence of the Magistrate" must mean in the hearing of the Magistrate, so that the Magistrate might have dealt with them from his own knowledge there and then, and without calling for the production of any evidence at all. I cannot agree with that. As I said, it does not follow that because a Magistrate is deaf persons in the court can use all sorts of insulting expressions and turn the court into a sort of pandemonium. Therefore I am inclined to hold that "in the presence of the Magistrate" means nothing but what it says; I am not inclined to hold that these words are synonymous with the words "in the hearing of the Magistrate." I cannot help thinking that the use of such an expression in such an audible tone that it can be heard by an inspector of police and by a constable is a gross insult to the Court. It was not intended to apply personally to the Magistrate; that I admit, but it is a gross insult to use such an expression to a witness who was there in the discharge of his duty. Under all the circumstances of the case, therefore, it seems that the charge was made out before the Magistrate, and that the defence set up was an aggravation of the original wrong doing, and although he may have been hurried into making that defence and setting up that false charge by a sudden impulse to shield himself, I cannot forget that the depositions disclose the fact that some evidence in the case was taken on the 14th January. The evidence of McEwen was taken and the evidence of Goddard, the other constable, bore out the truth of the statement. Both these witnesses were cross-examined, and yet, although the Magistrate did not act hastily and decide the case there and then, but adjourned the hearing for two days, and at the end of those two days, having had plenty of time to think of the gross impropriety of what he had said, instead of apologising to the Magistrate and throwing himself on the mercy of the Court, in which case he might have been leniently dealt with, he reiterated the charge and instructs his solicitor to say that this was entirely a trumped up charge, and that it was invented by the police to shield themselves. That is a gross aggravation of the offence, and I do not think the sentence of seven days' imprisonment under these circumstances at all excessive. I therefore dismiss this appeal with costs.

The Puisne Judge—I concur. I can only say that the insult was a gratuitous one.

The appeal was therefore dismissed with costs.

6th February.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HON. W. M. GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.)

PUBLIC EXAMINATION OF EDWARD FRANK BIRCHAL.

Edward Frank Birchall, formerly trading in Hongkong under the name of Villa, Lopez & Co., debtor, attended for his public examination. In his statement of affairs the debtor estimated his total assets at \$3,493.67 and his debts at \$16,215.47.

Mr. A. Seth was present as Official Receiver.

Mr. Grist—I am appearing on behalf of the debtor, but of course under the Code I cannot take any part in the examination.

Examined by the Official Receiver the debtor said—I commenced business in July with goods to the value of \$10,000, which were sent to me by Villa, Lopez & Co., of Barcelona. The goods consisted of piece goods, linen, blankets, and wines. I am of English domicile, but have been

some years in Spain. The firm of Villa, Lopez & Co. suggested my coming out East. Some of the goods consigned to me were sold here, but the bulk were sold in Manila. I realised about \$3,000 here and some \$7,000 or \$8,000 in Manila.

His Lordship—What business had you been in in England before you went to Spain?

Debtor—I was employed by a manufacturing firm in Manchester as sub-manager.

Continuing, debtor said—The proceeds of the goods sold in Manila were remitted to me. I was a partner in the firm in Barcelona and came out as such.

His Lordship—Were you legally a partner?

Debtor—There was no partnership agreement; it was arranged verbally that I should be a partner and receive 25 per cent. I have witnesses to that arrangement.

His Lordship—What was your share in the business?

Debtor—Twenty-five per cent.

His Lordship—Have you been credited with that?

Debtor—I have, in my account.

His Lordship—For how long?

Debtor—For 1893 and 1894. For 1895 I have no accounts.

His Lordship—Your share in the business, eh?

Debtor—Yes.

His Lordship—What was your salary?

Debtor—I had no salary.

His Lordship—The account shows a balance against you of \$29,000 odd.

Debtor—Yes; but the accounts are not correct.

His Lordship—There is no one appearing to represent the creditors.

The Official Receiver—Several proofs have been filed.

His Lordship (to debtor)—Looking at the statement of affairs I see you put your total debts at \$16,215.47. Now, are there any other debts besides that that you know of?

Debtor—One or two have been filed since that I did not know of at the time—small ones.

His Lordship—Is there a claim by Villa, Lopez & Co. for \$40,000.

Debtor said this amount was due from a man named Aboytiz in Manila, to whom he recommended the firm of Villa, Lopez & Co.

His Lordship—You did it in good faith, I suppose?

Debtor—Certainly. I do not believe the money is lost.

His Lordship—What happened; has he gone away?

Debtor—Oh, no. The custom there is to give credit and unless you keep on supplying goods you cannot get any money.

His Lordship—The firm complained to you about his account, I suppose?

Debtor—They complained generally about all the business they have done through me. I suppose they imagined there had been some bad faith, which there has not.

His Lordship—Do I understand that you know your debts amount to \$16,000 odd in addition to some small items of which you are not aware?

Debtor—Yes.

His Lordship—But why were you not aware of them; you kept proper books?

Debtor—Accounts have been presented since of which I had no knowledge at all.

His Lordship—Take Kelly and Walsh's account. You seem to have gone in very extensively for magazines and that sort of thing from England. I notice amongst many other things "The Queen," "The Graphic," "Manchester Times," "Ladies' Pictorial," "Temple Bar," &c. They run up to £12 or £13.

Debtor—That extends over a number of years.

His Lordship—Now as to your assets. You put them down as \$3,493.67. That consists of \$700 stock-in-trade sold and realised. Has money been received for that, Mr. Seth?

The Official Receiver—I believe so; perhaps that forms part of the \$1,500 that I received from the Government auctioneer.

His Lordship—Household furniture sold and realised, \$900. The other item is book debts. I understand from the Official Receiver that there is very little possibility of getting them in.

The Official Receiver—They are nearly all out of the colony, your Lordship. I think

there will be very great difficulty in collecting them.

His Lordship then questioned debtor as to his private expenses.

Debtor stated in answer that he lived at "Ravenshill," for which he paid \$100 a month.

His Lordship—What about your household expenses?

Debtor—They would be about \$500 a month.

His Lordship—What did you pay for your furniture?

Debtor—I think about \$2,000.

His Lordship—You know it only realised \$900?

Debtor—Yes. It was sold by auction.

His Lordship—Did it not occur to you that you might come out here and start in a simple way and take a furnished house?

Debtor—The firm was supporting me and I wanted to keep up the respectability of the firm.

His Lordship—What do you put down as the cause of your losing, according to your own showing, the difference between \$10,000 stock-in-trade, with which you started business, and an indebtedness now of about \$13,000, making about \$23,000 loss.

Debtor—In the first place the installation of a new business, heavy losses incurred in chartering steamers, and additional loss by the quarantine of steamers in Manila. Secondly, in consequence of an announcement in the local papers which ruined my credit and caused me to make considerable sacrifices in selling goods.

The debtor here handed an "express" to his Lordship, which he said was circulated in Hongkong, and an announcement to the same effect was published in the local papers. His Lordship read the notice which was as follows:—"The public are hereby notified that Messrs. Villa & Lopez, of Barcelona, are in no way connected with the firm of Villa, Lopez & Co., of Hongkong, the members of which latter firm are believed to be Messrs. E. T. Birchall and J. A. Barretto.—Johnson, Stokes and Master, Attorneys for Villa and Lopez, Barcelona."

His Lordship—The solicitors must have had instructions from the firm in Barcelona to issue that notice. Have you not had any communication from them to that effect?

Debtor—I have not. That was the first intimation I received.

His Lordship—It looks rather curious. They said they were in no way connected with your firm.

Debtor—I have letters here which will prove that they were connected with us.

His Lordship—Did they write to you and say they had ceased to have connection with you?

Debtor—No. I telegraphed to them, but up to now I have received no reply. That was the cause of bankruptcy. It is of course untrue.

His Lordship—Are the firm in Barcelona put down as creditors?

Debtor—I do not recognise them as creditors at all.

His Lordship—Your point is that if they had not issued that "express" you would have recognised them as creditors. Can you show me any letter stating that they are partners?

Debtor—No.

His Lordship—I thought you said you had letters to that effect. Who represents them here.

Debtor—I do not think they have any representative.

Debtor here handed in a letter from the Barcelona firm stating that he was authorised to establish a branch in the Philippine Islands.

His Lordship—That does not give you power to establish a business in Hongkong.

In the course of further examination debtor said he wrote to the firm in Barcelona intimating his intention of starting a branch in Hongkong. He had not got the letter with him which he received in reply.

His Lordship—Is it their contention that you are simply their agent?

Debtor—They simply want to disconnect me and leave me liable. What I maintain is that they are liable for the losses here.

His Lordship—I think I had better adjourn the examination now. The question is whether there shall be an adjudication now.

Debtor's counsel urged that the matter be pushed forward, as debtor was unable to earn his living here and was only remaining to assist in the collection of the assets.

His Lordship said he would adjudge the debtor and adjourn the examination till the 20th inst.

THE AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

On Saturday evening the Amateur Dramatic Club gave a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Trial by Jury" preceded by Gilbert's musical fairy tale in one act, "Creatures of Impulse." Both pieces had been in active rehearsal for several weeks, and were produced on Saturday in a manner that well sustained the traditions of the Club and afforded the most complete satisfaction to a large and enthusiastic audience. "Trial by Jury" is invested with a certain amount of historic interest in Hongkong and its reproduction on Saturday was looked forward to with pleasant anticipation. It was in this amusing operetta that our local amateurs first broke ground in the musical comedy line eighteen years ago, and several who on that occasion took part in the performance were, on Saturday evening in the audience as spectators and auditors of the efforts of a younger generation. The 23rd March, 1878, was the date on which "Trial by Jury" was first given in Hongkong. The Choral Society was then responsible for the production and it was given in the Lusitano Theatre, a pleasant little theatre which now, alas, no longer exists. A most pronounced success was achieved, and the Choral Society was justly congratulated upon it. Saturday night's performance was a repetition of the success, and the A.D.C. are equally to be congratulated.

For "Creatures of Impulse" the cast was as follows:—

Sergeant Klooque Mr. G. P. Lammert.
Bombelhardt (a miser) Dr. F. Clark.
Peter (a young farmer) Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N.
Jacques (a villager) Capt. A. Pole Welman, A.S.C.
Martha (Landlady of the Three Pigeons) Mrs. Clark.
Pipette (her niece) Mrs. Welman.
A Strange Old Lady Mrs. V. A. Caesar Hawkins.
Lisa (a peasant) Miss Lammert.
Villagers Messdames Cox, Grimble, McCallum, and Woolley; Messrs. Bain, Clement, Holmes, and Humphreys; Messrs. Armstrong, Chapman, Sheldon, Hayward, Lawson, F. Lammert, Meadows, Mirow, Newbury, Sharp, Stevens, Waymouth, R. Witchell, and J. Witchell.

The plot of the piece may be very briefly described. Sergeant Klooque returns from the wars, covered with glory, to spend a furlough at his native village and puts up at the Three Pigeons. At this well appointed inn an old lady has taken up her quarters and refuses either to pay or to leave. The landlady explains her trouble to her friends and it is resolved that they shall each try in turns to induce the unprofitable guest to clear out. The strange old lady, however, turns out to be a witch and she places a spell upon each of those who interfere with her. Peter, a notorious coward, who has a great objection to coming in conflict with men but is not afraid to use force to an old woman, is condemned to go on squaring up to every body he meets and inviting them to "come on," a prospect which is very repugnant to him because he thinks somebody will hit him. Sergeant Klooque, on the other hand, a fine young fellow who was never afraid of anything, is condemned to dodge and duck and say don't to every one. Pipette, a young lady who is so shy that she turns her grandfather's portrait to the wall when she does her hair, has to ask every one to kiss her. Bombelhardt, the miser, is condemned to give a guinea to every one he meets, and Martha, the landlady, has to turn every one away from her inn. The punishments inflicted by the old lady on her victims naturally give rise to a succession of amusing situations and the piece is full of fun from beginning to end. The incidental music introduced was of a very taking character and the chorus ably supported the principals. One of the features was a march which, though it might have been a little better rehearsed by the ladies,

was exceedingly pretty and was deservedly applauded. Much taste was displayed in the costumes.

Mr. G. P. Lammert made a very handsome and imposing *Sergeant Klooque* and acted the part well. Of his singing it is sufficient to say it was what might be expected from such a capable vocalist and his song "In time of peace," introducing the chorus and march mentioned above, was excellently rendered. As *Bombelhardt*, the miser, Dr. F. Clark was also exceedingly good and acted the greedy old man's part to the life. The way in which he offered his guineas after the spell was cast upon him caused much merriment. Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N., who took the part of *Peter*, displayed genuine histrionic ability and his justification of cowardice and his involuntary squaring up were most amusing. Captain Welman also acted well in the small part of *Jacques*. Mrs. Clark made a very pleasant landlady and was quite at home on the stage. *Pipette*, however, is the character that affords the most opportunities, and Mrs. Welman took full advantage of them, her representation of the shy and simple maid being a really excellent performance and evoking much laughter. She also sang with much taste and her song "If there is one thing more than others" was warmly encored. Mrs. V. A. Caesar Hawkins made a charming witch and acted with much vivacity, and Miss Lammert was very attractive in the small part of *Lisa*. Altogether the performance was an excellent one and affords no opportunity for fault finding. "Creatures of Impulse" is only a trifling little piece, but it is very amusing and on Saturday night was excellently staged.

After a commendably short interval, considering that all the characters had to change, the curtain rose on "Trial by Jury," for which the cast was as follows:—

The Learned Judge Mr. C. H. Grace.
The Plaintiff Mrs. Dalrymple.
The Defendant Mr. G. P. Lammert.
Counsel for the Plaintiff Mr. E. A. Measor.
Usher Dr. J. Lowson.
Foreman of the Jury Dr. Meadows.
First Bridesmaid Miss Lammert.
Bridesmaids, Visitors, &c. Messdames Chapman, Cox, Dodwell, Grimble, Hawkins, Ingham, McCallum, Welman, and Woolley; Misses Bain, Clements, Holmes, and Humphreys.
Counsel, Solicitors, Jurymen, British Public, &c. Messrs. Armstrong, Bird, Chapman, Duncan, Frowd, Holmes, E. Hayward, R. F. Lammert, T. Lammert, E. W. Maitland, Mackay, Mirow, H. Newberry, Percival, Sharp, Sheldon, Stevens, Waymouth, Welman, R. Witchell, and J. Witchell.

The jury empannelled to try the important case was, it may be remarked, a most intelligent one, comprising such well known members of the community as Mr. Thomas Jackson, Mr. E. C. Ray, Mr. Fullerton Henderson, Mr. H. N. Mody, and Mr. G. H. Wheeler, besides a couple of young gentlemen who appeared in *proprio persona* and an elderly foreman in black kid gloves and of solemn countenance who looked rather like an undertaker. Amongst the Counsel seated at the table, too, was a representative of Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., but not quite true to life, because he kept his mouth rigidly closed and did not come in even as *amicus curiæ*. Mr. C. H. Grace took as his model of "a Judge and a good Judge too" our late Chief Justice and tumbled his wig about his head in an amusingly characteristic style. Altogether the *mise en scène* was very cleverly conceived and the actors individually showed excellent taste and humour in their different characters.

Of Mrs. Dalrymple as *The Plaintiff* we can hardly speak in terms of too high praise. She displayed both vocal and histrionic ability, and secured the complete sympathy of the audience, both her singing and acting being warmly applauded. She looked charming in her bridal costume and in her tearful moods and when making love to the jury and dignitaries of the court was quite irresistible. Mr. C. H. Grace was excellent as *The Learned Judge* and gave a very fine rendering of the song "When I, good friends, was called to the bar." Mr. G. P. Lammert was *The Defendant* and acted and sang well his song "Oh, gentlemen, listen, I pray," with chorus by the bridesmaids,

being encored. As Counsel for the Plaintiff Mr. E. A. Measor had an important part and acquitted himself in it with credit. Though his natural ability for acting does not seem so great as his musical ability, he infused a fair amount of life into the part and played up to his fair client with care and intelligence. The funny part of *The Usher* was entrusted to Dr. J. A. Lowson, and it could not have been in better hands. He had a capital make up and extracted all the amusement possible out of the part, and that without any undue extravagance. The bridesmaids, jury-men, etc., all did well in their respective parts, and the bridesmaid's chorus "Comes the broken flower" was one of the most pleasing items of the evening.

The orchestra was a very efficient one and was composed as follows:—Piano, Mr. G. Grimble; First Violins, Messrs. J. G. Schroeter, C. Schroeter, and Bottenheim; Second Violins, Messrs. Lopez, Cole, R.N., and Campbell, H.K.R.; Cello, Surgeon-Major Hayes, D.S.O.; Flute, Commander Grafton, R.N.; Oboe, Mr. Abrehardt; Clarinet, Mr. A. Cumming; and (by kind permission of Major the Hon. E. Noel and officers of the Rifle Brigade) Viola, Corporal Boxington; Double Bass, Private Taylor; Bassoon, Private Pitt.

The Amateur Dramatic Club and all who assisted are to be heartily congratulated on their performance. The greatest credit is due to Mr. J. Orange, the Musical Director and Conductor, Mr. H. C. Nicolle, the Acting Manager, and Mr. E. W. Mitchell, the Stage Manager, for their indefatigable exertions and the success with which they were crowned.

Monday's repetition of "Creatures of Impulse" and "Trial by Jury," especially the latter, was another great success for the A. D. C. Of the first piece there is little more to be said than was contained in our first notice. Mrs. Welman's pretty song was again encored, and in the march by the chorus there was more steadiness than on the first occasion. On the whole, however, perhaps the amusement caused by the representation was not quite so great as on the first night, the piece being rather thin for repetition.

Very different was it with "Trial by Jury," which went with even greater liveliness than on the first night and was more enthusiastically received. Any one seeing Mr. Grace as the Judge on Saturday night would have thought there was little room for improvement, but he managed on Monday to make the part still more amusing and he received a very warm encore for his song "When I, good friends, was called to the bar," to which he had to respond by repeating the last verse. Mrs. Dalrymple was again charming as the Plaintiff and her duet with the Defendant, "I love him," was loudly re-demanded, and both Mr. Lamuert's songs were encored. The bridesmaids' chorus was also loudly applauded.

Some few alterations were made in the dressing. Mr. Measor, the Plaintiff's Counsel, appeared on this occasion with a get up reminding one of the late speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. R. F. Lammert as the Clerk of the Court, who appeared without any make-up on Saturday, now had whiskers and a bald head, and another local celebrity was included in the jury, Mr. E. W. Maitland giving a very good representation of Surgeon-Major Hayes in riding muffs. The Foreman of the Jury, Dr. Meadows, caused a little laughter by asking the Judge at the beginning of the proceedings whether the jurors' remuneration was to be ten dollars a day or ten dollars for the job. The impersonators of the various characters in the jury were Captain Welman as Mr. Jackson, Mr. Mackay as Mr. E. Henderson, Mr. Doucan as Mr. H. N. Mody, Mr. Wainwright as Mr. G. H. Wheeler, and Mr. A. Sharp as Mr. E. C. Ilay, and as already stated, Mr. E. W. Maitland as Surgeon-Major Hayes. Mr. Frowl appeared as himself and Dr. Meadows as the Foreman, had a fancy make up.

In our previous notice we omitted to make mention of the artistic cover to the programme, the work of Mr. H. W. Bird.

A repetition of the performance is advertised for Saturday, the 22nd inst.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

IMPORTANT SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR.

At noon on the 6th Feb. His Excellency the Governor presided at the prize distribution at Queen's College. The spacious hall of the college was filled with scholars and their friends, and amongst those on the platform, in addition to many ladies, were—Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary), Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works), Hon. E. R. Bellios, Hon. Ho Kai, the Right Rev. Bishop Burden, and Dr. G. H. Bateson Wright (Head Master).

The HEAD MASTER read his annual report which we publish below, after which he said—I have now to relieve my mind of a heavy incubus—a debt—a debt of gratitude incurred by myself, the masters, and the boys, first of all for the presence of your Excellency on this occasion, secondly, for the many valuable prizes so lavishly bestowed by persons of all nationalities, and thirdly, for the presence of so many kind friends here. It was rightly remarked at a recent prize distribution that a heavy task is imposed upon your Excellency in expecting you to make speeches year after year at so many schools in the colony, but it is very evident that if the task is heavy your Excellency succeeds in making everyone believe it is a pleasure. (Applause). In a lesser degree a similar remark applies to those of our guests who are not parents of the boys. To many of them there must be a certain amount of self-denial in coming here to cheer the boys and masters by publicly showing their interest in the welfare of this Government Institution. (Applause).

HIS EXCELLENCY then distributed the prizes, after which he said—My Lord Bishop, ladies and gentlemen, and members of the Governing Body, this is the fourth occasion upon which I have distributed the prizes from this platform, and the duty has I confess, been a somewhat difficult one, because I cannot say that I am fully satisfied with the results which accrue to the Government and to the public generally from this institution. Nevertheless it has given me the greatest possible pleasure to come here this morning to give away so many valuable prizes to so many boys who deserve the prizes they have received. (Applause). Now your popular head master, Dr. Wright, (applause)—knows very well that I am not quite satisfied with the results of this institution, and therefore it is very kind of him to ask me to come here year after year to give away the prizes. It shows that although he holds very strong opinions himself he is perfectly ready to hear adverse opinions, and to weigh them fairly—(applause)—and though I may, metaphorically speaking, have occasionally trodden upon his toes, yet he realised that "to err is human, to forgive divine." I hope, therefore, that Dr. Wright will forgive me if I say anything this morning which may displease him. I know that his heart is in his work; I know that his work is very hard and continuous; yet as an honest man, I must speak to-day what I conceive to be the truth. You have heard Dr. Wright's report read. I do not intend to make any comment upon it. To-morrow you will see it in print, and you will also see in print the report of the Examiners of this College. That report seems to me to be a very able and lucid document. (Applause.) It reached me on Tuesday evening last, so that the remarks I intend to make this morning are perfectly independent of it, as they were written out on Sunday and Monday last. I will now proceed to give you a brief summary of the Examiners' Report. They are of opinion that, although there were many cases of conspicuous success in the recent examinations, there was a lamentable amount of weak and inaccurate work. They state that the teaching of colloquial English by means of conversation seems quite neglected. That there were several perfect papers in classes IV, VII, and VIII. That there were 2 or 3 excellent essays from class 1A. That in History and Geography there had been evident cramming. That in Latin only one boy came anywhere near the standard. That in arithmetic a few boys did well, but the average was

poor. That Euclid was disappointing. That freehand drawing gave evidence of sound and careful teaching. That in many cases Algebra had been fairly taught. They are of opinion that the boys are pushed on too rapidly. They suggest that more attention, much more, should be given to English, and that the energy and ability of the European staff should be directed more to the Chinese boys. That Chinese masters should not be allowed to teach English, and they are against the separation of Chinese boys from the non-Chinese boys. In conclusion, they bear favourable testimony to the ability of the masters and to the discipline and orderly behaviour of the boys. (Applause). Upon that I wish to most sincerely congratulate the boys. (Applause). Now I have to point out that this Governing Body was only appointed by me a year ago, and therefore it was impossible for them to make any changes in the directions they advocate until they had held the first examination of all the boys. As I said two years ago, I am not an educationist, and I really am very glad of it, but I believe I possess some practical common sense, and I want to tell you this afternoon what this College was established for, and to ask you whether it is fulfilling its object. As I told you before, my remarks are absolutely independent; they were written before I received either the report of Dr. Wright or the report of the Examiners. Now when this College was opened by Sir George Bowen, who as you know was one of the most eminent scholars ever sent out from Oxford, he made the following remarks—"I hope that Victoria College, to be developed at some future date into Victoria University, may endure throughout the great future of China, and may be a source whence will flow the streams of education and knowledge to generations yet unborn." He added—"Many of the leading statesmen of England trust with me that a long succession of our Chinese students, after completing their education in England, may have the honour of introducing into their native land the results of the humane and enlightened jurisprudence and of the improved medical science of modern Europe, or may as Surveyors or engineers help to cover the vast Empire of China with a network of railways and telegraphs." A year later he averred that Victoria College would render an important service to the neighbouring Empire of China, and would prove a powerful and honourable method of extending British influence. Have these expectations, ladies and gentlemen, been in any way realized, or are they in course of realisation? In February 1892, when quite a stranger here, after giving away the prizes I stated that one of the things which struck me most forcibly was that the efforts of the Government to promote the spread of the English language had resulted in a complete failure in making any impression on the Chinese speaking residents of the Colony. I added that we had been more than fifty years in possession of Hongkong, and yet what was known as an English education was the luxury of the few. Under the then existing system, as under the present, many boys attended school for only a short time, and then they leave school unable to speak English or understand English colloquially, or written English properly. Dr. Wright himself has confirmed this, for in his report for 1892, he said "In spite of the great anxiety which the Chinese evince for the admission of their boys into the College there is strong statistical evidence for the belief that a large number desire only to make an experiment of the study of the English language." Surely, ladies and gentlemen, this is not satisfactory, and should not be tolerated. Many years ago it was urged, and very properly urged, that the primary object of the Government should be the teaching of English, that five hours a day should be devoted to English, and that all English lessons should be obligatory. In February, 1893, I again said while distributing the prizes here "that the main object to be kept perpetually in view was the teaching of English and the introduction as a corollary of English customs and English ideas as far as possible." And in 1894 I said "that the efforts of an educationist would in my opinion be far more profitable if they were directed to the teaching of English to the Chinese boys rather than of physical geography and

animal physiology." Later on, two years ago only, one of our great promoters of education here, the greatest in fact, Mr. Bellios, C.M.G., said—"Let Hongkong be the Oxford and Cambridge of China. Let her be the seat of learning for that vast Empire upon whose fringe she stands." A very noble idea, ladies and gentlemen, but is it so? Have any practical steps been taken in that direction? None that I am aware of. Now, ladies and gentlemen, what have we here? A fine, not to say magnificent building; a most able head master, distinguished in scholarship and in literature—(applause)—a large number of most capable and efficient assistant masters—(applause)—and all of these maintained by fees paid by the scholars and by a subsidy of some \$17,000 or \$18,000 a year paid by the Government. What I say is this, that I and the taxpayers want to have our money's worth. We want to see some palpable and beneficial results from this large expenditure of money. Let us admit that the Chinese parents are indifferent, and that they pay two-thirds of the \$18,000 a year. What becomes of the other one-third? Say there are 500 boys educated here—a very low estimate; what becomes of the 150 or 160 boys paid for by the English or European taxpayer? After an existence of twelve or fifteen years there should be at least 1,000 or 1,200 boys or men speaking English pretty fluently, knowing something about Western science, something about Great Britain, something outside of China. Where are they? In justice to Queen's College I will say this, that nearly all the English-speaking residents in Hongkong and certainly those who speak English most fluently, were educated in this College—(applause);—but their numbers are very few. Does the College therefore exercise through its pupils any appreciable influence on China? I do not believe that it does. It furnishes, certainly, some clerks to the hongs in the colony, it provides some for the Customs in China, it provides others for the hongs in coast ports. But where are the boys or the men who are passing or who have passed through this College, who are imbued, in the least degree, with Anglo-Saxon ideas, who realise the magnitude of the British Empire, the enormous power and strength and wealth of England, which led Lord Salisbury to say the other day, "We do not care how isolated England is so long as we are united." (Loud applause). Now, do you boys suppose that was an empty boast? Do you suppose it is not the absolute truth? Several of you boys have received very handsome books for your proficiency in history, English subjects, literature, science, composition, &c.; do you know, for instance, that during the Queen's reign her Colonial subjects of European descent have increased from two millions to upwards of nine millions? Do you know that during the same period her Asiatic subjects have increased from ninety-six millions to upwards of two hundred and fifty-five millions; and that other races in her colonies have increased from two millions to more than seven millions? Are any of you boys aware that the area governed by Her Majesty in India is 1,383,000 square miles, and in the colonies it is upwards of 7,000,000 square miles. Do you know that Her Majesty's possessions embrace one-fifth of the habitable globe, and are three times greater than the Roman Empire at the height of its success and greatness? (Applause). And to come much nearer home, boys—and it seems like descending from the sublime to the ridiculous—do you realise what Hongkong was sixty years ago, and what it is to-day, owing to British influence? Boys, if you knew this and a good deal more, you would be happier, better, and certainly wiser boys than you are now, and I am sure you would make ultimately better subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty than you would be without that knowledge. I feel strongly on this point, and I have perhaps spoken strongly. Hongkong belongs and ever will belong to England. You boys will live to see England far stronger in the East than she is now. She is getting stronger day by day. You live under the protection of England in this colony, and in return for that protection you should not merely experiment with the English language, but should become worthy citizens and English speaking subjects of the greatest Empire in the world, and by

doing this remember that you will assist the best interests of China. Where are your railways about which Sir George Bowen spoke fifteen years ago; where are your coal mines, your gold and silver mines? Why, you can count them upon your fingers. But we have them in our colonies and in England and have had them for many years past. Your undeniable sources of wealth are all closed and are still waiting the incoming of European influence and English instructors and English instruction. You boys may say you have nothing to do with this. But I say you have. You can learn English; you can study our history; you can strive to read and to understand England's progress in railways, telegraphs, steamers, manufactures, and other things; you can tell your parents at home all about these and urge upon them to give you greater facilities for hearing and learning about them yourselves. If by such means we could turn out 100 or 200 boys a year from this College who would spread the good tidings amongst other boys, we might then expect the opening of China within a reasonable time. (Loud applause). Therefore, with every regard for Dr. Wright and every respect for his great ability and learning, I say—it is only my own opinion and I give it you *quantum valeat*—I say that as far as I can judge Queen's College has not fulfilled the high expectations which were cherished of it. The question therefore to be settled now by the Government and the community and the examiners is whether the curriculum of this College can be so altered and reformed as to bring about the desirable results for which it was established. I believe it can be. I believe the curriculum is too ambitious, and I therefore most earnestly recommend the subject to the anxious consideration of the Governing Body and to Dr. Wright. I would ask, looking at the examiners' report, what is the use of boys learning Latin and Euclid? It takes their time from the study of a far more profitable and useful language—English; and surely it must only vex and confuse them rather than assist them in their studies. I hope the Governing Body and Dr. Wright will believe me when I say my only desire is to leave Queen's College in a better and more influential position and to make it a better and more influential institution than I found it. I have no desire in any way to cripple it or in any way to diminish its influence. My whole desire is to extend that influence. I will not say how far the Government is responsible for the existing state of things, but I do say this—it is the duty of the Government, as the ruling power, to endeavour to make the Chinese see the value of an English education; and I would further state that I will most unhesitatingly give my support to Dr. Wright and the Governing Body in that direction. Ladies and gentlemen, in your reading of Indian history you may remember that when English was first introduced into India the children were induced to go to school by the present of a little piece of money daily. I have no doubt the Chinese would like a similar present. The fees now in India are readily and cheerfully paid. I have no doubt Dr. Wright knows all this. Many of the schools and colleges there are affiliated with the great University of Calcutta, and boys who go in for the B.A. examination pay 10, 15, or 20 rupees a month. As I said, when English was first introduced in India boys were paid to go to school; now they go willingly. At one time, as I told you, English education was sneered at in India; it was excommunicated by the Hindoo priests, who looked upon it as an unclean thing. Canot that which was done in India be done here? Certainly it can, with the assistance of you boys and the Chinese community. The Chinese, as a race, are far cleverer, far more astute, far more industrious than the Indian. Are you satisfied, boys, with being left in the lurch? I would say, Certainly not, when so many advantages are to be gained by the spread of English knowledge. At any rate, boys, I must say this, that Queen's College cannot any longer be treated as a school for the experimental learning of English. It must be transformed into a practical, useful institution, second to none in the colony, where a good, thorough, sound education in English will be given. I cannot expect you boys to understand

all I have said this morning, but I venture to hope some of these remarks will be printed in the Chinese language and will be circulated amongst you, circulated in the neighbouring province, and perhaps even in Peking. I speak to you as the Queen's representative, as the Governor of this colony, as a true friend of China. What other object could I have in speaking to you as I have done? And now, gentlemen of the Governing Body and Dr. Wright, I will endeavour myself to create a personal interest in this matter. I will give \$50 to any Chinese boy who will send me in before the 30th June a good essay on the subject of "Great Britain and her progress during the last fifty years." (Applause.) And I will give \$25 to the boy who writes the second best essay on the same subject. (Applause). In conclusion, ladies and gentlemen, and gentlemen of the Governing Body, I can only thank you for listening to me so attentively. I must congratulate you boys who have gained prizes, and would urge upon you the advantage of studying more thoroughly than you have done and are doing those subjects which are most useful in making up what is called an English education. I must thank Dr. Wright for asking me to come here; I hope to come here again next year and that what I have so imperfectly said will be fruitful of very good results. (Loud applause). Now, boys, give three cheers for Dr. Wright and the Governing Body. (Applause).

Cheers for the Queen, the Governor, the donors of the prizes, the visitors, and the head master concluded the proceedings.

HEAD MASTER'S REPORT.

The following is the Head Master's report —
Queen's College,
28th January, 1896.

Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Colonial Secretary.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward the annual report on Queen's College for the year 1895.

1.—The total number on the roll for the year was 1,024. As the attendance in January was 577, the admissions reached the high figure of 447; of these, 350 were new boys; there therefore remain 97 names of boys who returned from the 1894 roll. In the last four months no fewer than 89 new boys were admitted, nearly double the usual number, for the same period. After allowance has been made for the four days during which, with His Excellency the Governor's approval, the College was closed for the Oxford Local Examinations, the number of school days, 233, is normal.

2.—In the past year over 100 boys on leaving this College obtained situations; 3 in the local Civil Service, 43 in local mercantile and professional offices, 38 in the Chinese service, and 33 at the coast ports and abroad generally.

3.—\$12,667 fees were collected in the course of the year. This is not only the largest amount thus paid into the Treasury as yet, but is so in spite of the facts that the monthly averages in the first half of the year were nearly 100 attendances less than in 1894, and that a loss of \$162 was incurred by the departure in October of 35 boys for Tientsin. Expenditure is apparently larger than last year, but this is due to the appearance, in 1895 accounts of arrears of exchange compensation chargeable against 1894.

4.—Three years ago (*Gazette*, 1893, p. 165, par. 3) I pointed out that the normal conditions of the Central School were not ideal, and that the continuance of these in a building with twice the attendances increases the difficulty fourfold; for it is evident that the consequences attendant upon the annual change of one-third of the total number of boys grow more serious in a ratio which rapidly increases out of proportion to the mere access of numbers. If ordinary principles of promotion are under these circumstances adhered to, the natural result would be an annual reduction of the attendances in the Upper School, and a corresponding expansion of the lower sections of the College, including the Preparatory School. The fees in the Upper School being highest, there would be entailed a serious reduction in the revenue. Further, the number of boys leaving annually would be doubtless augmented, as the present method of rapid promotion is welcome to them, at their age, as curtailing the length of their school career.

As a typical instance I may cite the component parts of Class IV. C, where in November last 7 boys had been in Class V., 11 in Class VI., 11 in Class VII., and 1 in Class VIII., several of them having been promoted through intermediate classes in the previous half of 1895. No ideal education can thrive under such circumstances. What is to be noted is that the system combines and harmonises the demand for fees and the eagerness of boys to complete their education with the utmost speed. Any estimate of the education given at this College that ignores the above conditions, and makes no allowance for the fact that in four or five years the majority of boys pass through eight standards, must arrive at erroneous conclusions.

5.—A cry is heard from Wales that it is impossible for boys attending day-schools who hear and speak nothing but Welsh out of school hours to attain to anything like ease and accuracy in speaking and writing the English language. As I do not think that sufficient allowance is generally made for the difficulties attendant upon the study of English by boys of Mongolian race, I was glad to find in "Things Japanese," in the article on Education by Professor Mason, the expression of the same argument I have often employed, which is to the following effect. If in England the examination in English history, grammar, geography, mathematics, &c. were entirely conducted, questions and answers, oral and written, in the Latin language, only a slight idea could be formed of the difficulty experienced by Japanese and Chinese in examinations conducted in English; for, after all, there is a certain amount of kinship between English and Latin in thought, roots, construction, and expression, absolutely wanting between English and Japanese or Chinese. I also found from conversation with Professor Mason, at a health resort in Japan last summer, that the attainments of our boys after four or five years compare very favourably with those of Japanese after a uper years' course: great proficiency in English conversation, grammar, composition, &c. is the exception not the rule, being dependent on the natural abilities of the boys, not on the system of education.

6.—The Second Master, Mr. May, returned from leave in April and Mr. Barlow in August. Mr. Jones went on leave in July. The office of seventh Assistant Master was abolished, the Governing Body, by appointing a graduated scale of high salaries for the Chinese staff. Of the four Chinese teachers who are mentioned in my letter of 1894, only one, Mr. Wan, is going to a new position, recently appointed at Tientsin, and the four remaining teachers to the Public Works Department. The great bulk of our Chinese staff now consists of inferior men, and it is to be hoped that the great credit that they have uniformly so generously given to sustain the standards of the classes entrusted to their charge.

7.—The results of the Oxford Local Examinations are this year very disappointing, being far behind the most satisfactory ones of the two preceding years. It is not, however, possible to maintain an even standard of excellence for any length of time, especially in view of the difficulties resulting from irregular attendance detailed above. There are, however, two redeeming features which deserve to be noted. Out of the eight boys from the College who received certificates two obtained distinction. U Hang-kam, already A.A. in 1894, aspired to distinction in mathematics, and was successful, ranking 12th out of 23 Seniors, so honoured in all England. Charles Ellis was similarly 3rd out of 12 in the list, distinguished in history in the Preliminary Examination.

8.—It is much to be wished that some plan could be devised for reducing the distracting noises by which our work is continually interrupted. I refer especially to the nuisance arising from processions, which I believe are required to hush their music in the neighbourhood of the Supreme Court and other public buildings, but which seem to reserve their energies for our benefit. Just recently a new cause of annoyance has arisen, the dressing of rough hewn stones in Stanton Street. I have

often suggested the blocking-up of the loopholes in the boundary wall of the same street, as these apertures reveal an irresistible visit for cockshy to the gamins of that district; during the examination a small urchin threw quite a big stone into the hall. A more serious ground for complaint is the immoral reputation of the immediate neighbourhood of this College, it being a matter of common knowledge that brothels and secret gambling dens abound, which prove a source of ruin to several of our scholars.

9.—
10.—The usual tables of statistics are attached.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant.

GEO. H. BATESON WRIGHT D.D., Oxon.,
Head Master.

THE EXAMINERS' REPORT.

The Examiners were the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M.A., and Rev. W. Pearce, and their report is addressed to the Governing Body of the College. It is very long and would occupy three columns if reproduced in full. The following are extracts from it:—

"In accordance with instructions received from you we have examined, either by written work or orally, 'all the subjects taught in the College, including the Chinese school,' with the exception of shorthand, which we understand is at an elementary stage, it being undesirable that boys commencing this subject should be subjected to any test in it until they have arrived at a certain standard of efficiency.

"The examination occupied eleven days (January 3rd to 16th), exclusive of one day given to the Chinese school; and on eight of these days the work was carried on in the afternoon as well as in the morning.

"Papers were set in all the subjects offered except reading, conversation, and the pupil teachers' practical work, which were taken orally. Great care was taken to preserve, as far as possible, the standard hitherto adopted in the annual examinations, the questions being carefully chosen to test the knowledge which had been imparted to the boys in those portions of their subjects which they had been taught. Only in three instances was it pointed out by the Head Master that we had exceeded this limit, and then due allowance was made in the awarding of marks. The papers were generally slightly longer than usual, in order to give as much scope as possible; and it is hoped that the tabulated results on the mark sheets may afford some means of comparison between the work in this examination and that of last year. We have, however, in order to avoid a severe test, taken 10 per cent. instead of 15 per cent. for the minimum of marks necessary to obtain a 'pass.' It was thus possible for any boy doing a little well to pass.

"In reporting upon the work of 500 boys it is impossible, without being inconveniently lengthy, to give more than a general view of the examiners' opinion of the work done. To do this would necessitate a detailed report upon each class, or set of parallel divisions, and as this cannot be done we would draw attention to the mark sheets, which have been prepared to show not only the order of merit in each division, but also the percentage of marks obtained in each subject by each boy, and the percentage of passes in each subject in each division, as well as the actual number of passes and failures awarded to each boy.

"With regard to the actual work, as might be expected in a school of this kind and size, where some boys have been so long and some so short a time under tuition, the work showed great unevenness. But what is less easily accountable is the fact that the boys in one class, not excepting the First, showed great disparity of knowledge or of power to reproduce it. There were a good many cases of conspicuous success, but there was also a lamentable amount of weak and inaccurate work. The best subjects were writing, algebra, and bookkeeping, and the worst conversation, composition, Latin, Euclid."

"Finally, while we recognise in the work of individual boys evidence of sound and careful teaching, the general efficiency of the work appeared to us to be small. We think that boys are pushed on too rapidly, and we feel

sure that more attention should be given to the teaching and the study of English. We believe that much good might be effected, and the standard of efficiency raised, if the ability and energy of the European staff were directed more to the Chinese boys. And we are not confident that it is for the welfare of the School, or in the interests of the education of the Chinese, that the non-Chinese boys should be in separate classes, and consequently the whole time of two European masters given entirely to them.

"We are pleased to be able to report very favourably on the discipline of the School and the general orderly behaviour of the boys. Lastly, our thanks are due to the Head Master and the Assistant Masters for their ready co-operation with us in all matters where we needed their assistance."

PRIZE LIST.

The following is the Prize List:—
OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS, 1895.

Senior.

U Hang-kam, A.A., 1894; distinguished in mathematics 1895, Li Kiu-ching, A.A., Wong Ting-sun, A.A.

Junior.

Harold Seth, Chau King-ting (over age), Sham Hoi-lam (over age).

PRELIMINARY.

Charles Ellis, Frank Long

SCHOLARSHIPS.

Morrison, Senior, IA, Wong Ting-sun.
Morrison, Junior, IVA, Wong Kai-leung.
Stewart, IA, Chan King-ting.
Bellios, Senior, IA, Sin Cheung.
Bellios, Junior, IC, C. H. Lee

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Translation, English to Chinese, Ju Kū-ün, IIA, (Merit), Tsui Hung, IA.
Translation, Chinese to English, Wong Leung-tso, IA.

Mathematics, Li Ut, IA.

History, IA, Luk Ki-kwong.

History, IB, She Kun-ying.

History, IC, F. Long.

Composition, IA, Wong Cheung-tso, IB, Chan Cho, IC, F. Long, IIA, Chan Chui-ün, IIB, U Tik-ün, IIC, M. Silas, IIIA, Wong Pak-ming, IIIB, Leung Sik-ying.

PUPIL TEACHERS.

Senior, U Tsung-hong.

Junior, Sin Cheung.

CLASS PRIZES.

IA, 1, Wong Ting-sun, Morrison Scholarship; 2, Chan King-ting, Stewart Scholarship; 3, Li Ut, merit.

IB, 1, Chan Ming-tsung; 2, Wong Ping-man.

IC, A, 1, C. Ellis; 2, A. R. Fukeera.

IC, B, 1, C. Silas.

IIA, 1, Ju Kū-ün; 2, Ho Kāu-kwan.

IIB, 1, Ho Shiu-tsung; 2, Fan U-kai.

IIC, A, 1, E. A. G. May; 2, A. Seedim; Home Work, E. Esmail.

IIC, B, 1, R. Abraham.

IIIA, 1, Lo Pun-fai; 2, Im Yat-wing.

IIIB, 1, Chung Kwok-leung; 2, U Shin-kwai.

IV, A, 1, Wong Kai-leung, Morrison Scholarship; Junior; 2, Tse Tsing-fong.

IV, B, 1, Tang Fuk; 2, Chui Tso-wa.

IV, C, 1, Wong Ip-shui; 2, Chui Ng-tang.

VA, 1, Leung In-pán; 2, Wong Shui-tsun, merit; Hoosin Hassan.

VB, 1, Fung Ho-cheung; 2, Un Sik-hing.

VIA, 1, Au Yuk-cheung; 2, Chan Yan-chung.

VIB, 1, Chui Ting-cheung; 2, Cheung Lin-shán.

VIC, 1, Tsoi Sai-yung; 2, Pun Cheuk.

VIIA, 1, Fok Sik-leung; 2, Chui Tsz-yan; Consolation, Ho Shui-wing.

VII, B, 1, Cheung Wa-ü; 2, Sun Wan-un.

VIII, A, 1, Ho Chenk-ying; 2, Ho Sham.

VIII, B, 1, Fung Ju-hi.

VIII, C, 1, Tsoi Tak-kung.

CHINESE SCHOOL.

Fortnightly Examinations.

1, Mok Mun; 2, Sung Man-wing.

CLASS PRIZES.

I, 1, Mok Mun, merit; 2, Ng Pok-wan.

II, 1, Pun Chung-kit; 2, Chan Chui-kwong.

III, 1, Wong Kai-leung, merit; 2, Sung Man-wing, merit; 3, Fung King-man.

IV, 1, Wong Wai-shing; 2, Ip Yung.

V, 1, Cheung Yuk-fai; 2, Wong Tak-kwong.

VI, 1, Ip Shiu; 2, Lau Kam-lam.

VII, 1, Wong Shiu-tsun.

VIII, 1, Wong Lai-chiu.

We (N. C. Daily News) learn that our original statement that the Hanyang Ironworks are to be transferred to an English syndicate is correct.

THE DEPARTURE OF DR. CANTLIE.

FAREWELL SPEECHES AND PRESENTATIONS.

On the afternoon of the 5th Feb. Dr. Cantlie, who is leaving the colony on Saturday on account of ill-health, was made the recipient of addresses and handsome presentations as tokens of the high esteem in which he is held by Hongkong residents. The presentations were made in the Chamber of Commerce room at the City Hall, which proved altogether too small to comfortably accommodate all those who attended the ceremony. On the motion of Hon. T. H. Whitehead, seconded by Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Mr. A. Coxon was voted to the chair. Dr. Cantlie sat on the right of the Chairman, who was supported at the table by Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary), Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. Ho Kai, Hon. E. R. Belilios, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., Dr. Thomson, Mr. T. Jackson, and Mr. C. Murray Adamson. There were also many ladies present, and among the gentlemen in the body of the room was Major-General Black.

The proceedings were opened by the CHAIRMAN, who said—Ladies and gentlemen, we are met together to-day for the purpose of presenting our worthy friend, Dr. Cantlie, with certain addresses and presentations. Unfortunately His Excellency the Governor is unable to be present. Sir William Robinson has, however, written a letter to the hon. secretary which I shall now have the pleasure of reading.

"Dear Sir,—Unfortunately I shall not be able to be present at the City Hall to-morrow, when I understand there will be several presentations to Dr. Cantlie. Under the circumstances, may I ask you to say how sorry I am that he is obliged, on account of ill-health, to leave the colony. Will you add that I much appreciate the energy and ability that he displayed, not only in connection with the College of Medicine for Chinese, but as founder and late President of the Odd Volumes Society. Dr. Cantlie has for many years and on many occasions devoted much of his valuable time and his great ability unhesitatingly and ungrudgingly to the service of this community. That he will be much missed goes without saying, and I shall be glad if you would assure him that on public as well as on private grounds I deeply regret his departure.—Yours faithfully, WILLIAM ROBINSON."

Since Dr. Cantlie found that the state of his health necessitated his starting for home this week the time has been so limited that many members of the community, have not had an opportunity of signing the address. There will still be an opportunity as Dr. Cantlie does not leave for a few days, and ladies may sign if they have a desire to do so before leaving to-day, as there are lists on the table. I will now call upon Mr. Francis to address the meeting.

Mr. FRANCIS, who was received with applause, said—My dear Dr. Cantlie, when I first came to this colony, and that is a good many years ago, I was given to understand that there was only one disease recognised by the medical faculty in the colony, and that was the liver, and that they had only two prescriptions, one a blue pill, and the other, if that did not succeed, a P. & O. steamer. (Laughter.) There have been very great changes since then. A great many new diseases have unfortunately been discovered. There have been considerable additions to the number of doctors and their prescriptions cover a much more extensive and probably a more expensive range of drugs and preparations; but I think there is no doubt whatever that the medical profession in Hongkong is unequalled in any colony on the face of the earth. (Applause.) I had the pleasure of meeting you at dinner the other day, and you then said that the citizens of Hongkong were to be congratulated—heartily congratulated—upon having as their medical attendants the very pick of the medical profession, in all branches, of England, Ireland, and Scotland. (Hear, hear, and applause.) In that statement all those present cordially concurred, and they agreed with a point which probably did not at the moment strike yourself, and which you certainly did not refer to, that among the many medical men who practise in this colony there has not been anyone who was your superior, or who came here more specially qualified for the very trying

work which the medical profession have to contend with at this distance from all seats of learning and consulting physicians, and where every medical man has to devote himself to the practice of every branch of his profession. (Applause.) Not content, doctor, with the very fatiguing practice of your profession here in Hongkong, you have devoted yourself, your time, and your attention to many matters, some medical and some public, in the interests of the colony, and you have given time which probably you ought to have devoted to rest and recreation. You became a member of the Sanitary Board and you gave the best possible advice to that institution while it existed. (Laughter and applause.) You joined the Volunteers as Surgeon-Captain. You trained the men in ambulance work and first aid to the wounded. You established a small ambulance corps of which you yourself took the lead. I need hardly remind my hearers that if not the actual founder you were certainly one of the most active supporters of the Volunteer medical staff in London. You established, greatly to the advantage of the residents in Hongkong, the Peak Hospital, through which over a thousand patients have passed, and you took upon your own shoulders, as I understand, the expense and the risk of the institution for the first two or three years of its existence. You were the first to bring out here trained European nurses, and I need hardly add that no one who has had knowledge and experience of the attention of the sick paid by nurses in the colony before that date must thoroughly understand how much we benefitted by that institution, which I believe led to the introduction of trained nurses in the hospitals of the colony. Before your arrival the supply of lymph for vaccination was both irregular in quantity and inferior in quality, and with your accustomed vigour you pressed the subject upon the Government and successfully established the Vaccino Institute, which has been a most successful institution, if not made so much use of as might be, and the supply of lymph for the colony is not only regular but abundant and of the very best quality. You gave your time and your labours to the work of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals. You have not merely aided and restored to health many among the Chinese, but you have by your exertions and kindness aided very considerably, in however small a degree, to diminish the prejudice entertained by the Chinese against European medicine. (Applause.) I believe it was primarily your idea that an attempt should be made to train Chinese students here in Western medicine. I do not intend to say anything more with reference to that establishment, because I believe before the proceedings of this meeting are concluded there will be a special address on the subject. I may say without hesitation that however great the benefits you have conferred upon the Alice Memorial Hospital and on the College of Medicine and on the students, you have also conferred a very great benefit indeed on the colony in so far as you have induced the Government to train Chinese students in Western sciences and lessened the prejudice of the Chinese against the introduction of European medicine into the colony. (Applause.) One would have thought that in these varied occupations you had found enough to do, but you were the founder of the Odd Volumes, and you spent many an hour in giving useful, instructive, as well as entertaining lectures to the members of the Society and to the public who were invited to their rooms. (Applause.) I am very much afraid that the Odd Volumes Society will not survive your departure. (Laughter.) But I have one consolation; I shall be able to say "I told you so." (Laughter.) I honestly believe that the Public Library which you set upon its feet will succeed—(applause)—and I heartily congratulate the colony upon it. In addition to all this work you have devoted yourself in the interests of general science and to scientific research, and at one time to the cultivation of innumerable quantities of microbes which you had stored at your house at the Peak. (Laughter.) I do not know what became of them in the typhoon that blew you out of house and home—(laughter)—and I do not know whether they contributed to the health of the colony. (Laughter.) You have also in-

vestigated with very great care the terrible disease known as leprosy as it manifested itself amongst the Chinese, and you have contributed to the scientific journals many valuable papers on the subject, besides devoting much time and care to the translation of a most valuable work by the members of the Dutch commission which has been some months investigating the subject in Java. But, doctor, it is not for your labours that your fellow citizens value you so highly. It is for your independence of character,—(applause)—for your outspokenness, your constant cheerfulness, your kindness of heart, your generosity, and your readiness to assist any one in need. (Applause.) No matter who it was no one ever applied to you in vain. We respect you and esteem you because of that superabundance of life and energy that has enabled you to carry through almost everything you proposed. If an idea is suggested to you you say "Let us do it," that has always been your plan, and you succeed in 99 times out of a 100 in carrying through what you intended. I believe you were only defeated once, and that was by the late Mr. Price. On behalf of the members of the community I, simply as their spokesman, and in their name and on their behalf, desire to express to you the high esteem in which they hold you for your personal qualifications, your high character, your scientific ability, your devoted labours for the past nine years in the interests of the colony. Of course you will probably tell us that you acted in your own interests. We will not believe that. You were animated by much higher sentiments and feelings, and the entire community, by my mouth, desire to express to you their sincere regret that you are leaving us and our still more sincere regret that you are leaving us on account of your ill-health, partly caused by your very great labours during your nine years residence in the colony, and our hearty good wishes for your speedy restoration to health and for your prosperity in the future. (Loud applause.) I have now to present you with this address signed by a large number of resident members of this community, and which will be signed by many more. I also had to present you with a silver tea and coffee service, but unfortunately it was impossible to get it ready in time. It will bear the following inscription:—

To
J. CANTLIE, Esq., M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S., &c.
From

The Residents of the colony of Hongkong,
in acknowledgment of many
valuable services rendered to the community,
and

in recognition of his labours in the interests
of health and medical science,
his energy, public spirit, and worth.

This Salver, Tea and Coffee Service are
presented.

Hongkong, 5th February, 1896.

Mr. FRANCIS then read the following address, after which he handed it to Dr. Cantlie:—

"To James Cantlie, Esq., M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S.
"Sir,—We, the undersigned residents in the colony of Hongkong, desire to express, upon the eve of your departure from the colony, our deep sense of the valuable services which you have rendered to the community during a sojourn amongst us of nearly nine years.

"During that period your name has been very prominently identified with many undertakings in the colony which required the display of much energy and public spirit to carry them through, and on every occasion you have shown yourself foremost in the work of enlightenment and progress.

"Your labours as a member of the Sanitary Board, and in the interests of health and medical science, have entitled you to the heartfelt thanks of the community, while the College of Medicine for Chinese, the Odd Volumes Society, and the Hongkong Public Library are monuments alike of your generosity and your energy.

"On behalf of the community we beg to offer to you our sincerest wishes for your speedy restoration to health and strength, and a continuous career of public usefulness."

The CHAIRMAN—Ladies and gentlemen, I now beg to call upon Mr. Lockhart.

The Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, in virtue of my office as Rector of the College of Medicine

for Chinese and as Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals, the very pleasing duty has been entrusted to me of requesting Dr. Cantlie to accept an address from the Court, Senate, Licentiate, and Students of the College of Medicine for Chinese, and from the Clinical Staff of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals. There are in this colony members of the *admiral* school, who think that addresses in Hongkong to departing residents are becoming too frequent, but I am certain there is not a resident in this colony, whatever may be his nationality and whatever may be his views on the subject of addresses, who will not agree that in the present instance it would have been a most flagrant example of base ingratitude if Dr. Cantlie had been allowed—although he himself might have desired it—to leave this colony without some recognition of the great services he has rendered to the College and the Hospitals. (Applause). In the case of the College of Medicine for Chinese, it was in great measure due to him that it was founded, and ever since it commenced its work of training Chinese in medical science there has been no more ardent supporter of it in every way. As lecturer in surgery and anatomy he has devoted much time and attention to the training of Chinese in these subjects, for his skill in which he justly enjoys so great a reputation in his own profession. As Dean he has been untiring in his exertions to advance the welfare of the College and increase the sphere of its usefulness. It is chiefly due to his efforts that Mr. Bellies has come forward with an offer which is equivalent to a grant of \$40,000 in aid of the College, the condition of the grant being that the Government will contribute by way of endowment a similar amount towards the College. It is much to be regretted that Dr. Cantlie is about to leave at a time when his persuasive and fluent eloquence, which has been inaptly compared to a Highland spate carrying all before it, would have been of great assistance in the campaign which will have to be waged against the powers that be in order to induce them to vote the sum required to obtain the grant promised by Mr. Bellies. I feel certain his flow of reason would have swept away all opposition, and that both officials and unofficials forgetful of the bogey retrenchment would have found themselves in the somewhat unusual position of complete accord. (Laughter). But though the College is about to lose the influence of Dr. Cantlie's powerful advocacy, I am not without hope that the College may be properly endowed. The plague epidemic of 1894 brought home to us how necessary it is in the interests of the public health of this colony that there should be amongst us Chinese trained in Western medical methods, and I think every one who reflects on this important matter cannot but agree that an institution which can train Chinese in such methods should receive every encouragement and support. (Applause). Such an institution exists in the Chinese College of Medicine, with which the name of Dr. Cantlie will always be associated, for he has been the life and soul of it, and had it not been for his keen enthusiasm, his love of his profession, his untiring zeal, and his indomitable energy, it is certain that the College would never have been so successful as it has been. (Applause). In addition to the excellent work in connection with the College, Dr. Cantlie has also been one of the main pillars of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals, which, as you all know, are hospitals maintained by voluntary contributions and established for the purpose of treating Chinese according to Western methods. During the years from 1887 to 1895 no fewer than about 6,000 in-patients and 73,000 out-patients have been treated in these hospitals. These figures will give an idea of the excellent work that is being performed in these institutions, and to that work Dr. Cantlie has lent the valuable aid of his medical and surgical skill ever since the hospitals have existed. For the past nine years he has been one of the regular visiting surgeons to these hospitals, and during that time many have been the sick and suffering to whom he has brought relief and comfort and healing them with that skill, cheering them with that geniality which so many residents in this colony will so long

remember. But not only has he been of assistance to these hospitals as a doctor, he has always taken a keen interest in their financial welfare. No movement has ever taken place to raise funds without his exerting himself in the good cause, and I well remember when the fête in aid of the hospitals was given in the Public Gardens, the versatile Doctor inhabited a booth with dummy men as companions on whom he performed, I need hardly say most successfully, operations wonderful to see before a crowded audience from whom, however, he did not fail to extract "hawbees" in aid of the Hospitals. (Laughter and applause). Dr. Cantlie, it is with feelings of genuine regret that we have to say good-bye to you. It is said that the wave of forgetfulness soon obliterates the memory of those who go from our midst, and this is perhaps an unavoidable tendency in a Far Eastern colony where the population is ever changing, but the memory of you and your good deeds in connection with the College and Hospitals will be green for many years to come—(applause)—and if these institutions continue to flourish, as there is every reason to anticipate they will do, it will always be remembered that in no small measure is their success due to you. You are indeed a son of whom your *alma mater*, Aberdeen University, may well be proud, and I trust that before long that University will take steps to fittingly recognise your services. (Applause). We wish you and Mrs. Cantlie every prosperity. For your sons we can wish nothing better than that they prove worthy sons of a worthy father. We envy the land which is to enjoy the charm of your personality and the geniality of your disposition, and we feel sure that the varied abilities and versatile gifts which have excited our admiration and affection here will gain for you in the old country a still greater reputation than that which you already possessed there. (Applause).

At the conclusion of his speech Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart read and handed the following address to Dr. Cantlie:—

"Address from the Court, Senate, Licentiate, and Students of the College of Medicine for Chinese and from the Clinical Staff of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals."

Hongkong, 5th January.

"To J. CANTLIE, Esq., M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S., &c., &c., &c.,
Dean of the College.

Dear Sir,—You have been connected with the Alice Memorial Hospital and with the College of Medicine for Chinese during the whole period of your residence in Hongkong, and with the Nethersole Hospital since the date of the earliest proposals for its erection. You are now about to leave the colony and settle in England, and we cannot permit you to go from among us without placing on record and publicly acknowledging (however reluctant you may be to receive such acknowledgment) the eminent services you have rendered to the Hospitals and to the College during the past nine years.

"As Surgeon and Clinical Teacher, as Lecturer on Surgery and Anatomy, as Secretary, and afterwards as Dean, of the College, you have been at all times and under all circumstances the life and soul of the College and of the Hospitals. Thousands of sick have benefited by your patience, attention, and professional skill, and have gone to their homes praising you and blessing you. Every student in the College has felt the influence of your enthusiastic love for your profession, and has been aided and encouraged to pursue his studies and overcome the difficulties that beset him, because of the warm personal interest you took in him and your readiness to come to his assistance. Your fellow Lecturers in the College have been encouraged and incited to further efforts in the performance of what at times has seemed a hopeless task by your energy and zeal in the cause of medical education and by your hopefulness of ultimate success. The Senate and the Court have profited greatly in the management of the affairs of the College by your experience and advice, and your efforts to stir up a wider interest among the members of the community and of the Government in the work undertaken by the College, and to obtain for the College public recognition and support, have simply been invaluable. That the College of Medicine

for Chinese has passed successfully through the period of struggle and discouragement incident to all new institutions and now gives promise of great future usefulness is mainly due to your untiring exertions on its behalf during the last nine years.

"We deeply regret that you are leaving the colony in indifferent health and at an earlier date than you had originally proposed. We hope that long before you reach Europe you will be perfectly rested and restored, and that you will be able to resume the practice of your profession in England with every prospect of success.

"We thank you most heartily for all your services to the College and to the Hospitals, and we hope that you will still continue to take an interest in their progress, and to help in their advancement by every means in your power. We bid you Farewell, and we wish you and Mrs. Cantlie every happiness and prosperity.

"We are, dear sir, yours respectfully,

The CHAIRMAN—I will now call upon Dr. Thomson to address you.

Dr. THOMSON—I do not propose to make a speech, but only to supplement what Mr. Lockhart has said by reading the resolution of the local branch of the London Missionary Society, which is the governing body of the hospital. The resolution is as follows:—

"Resolution of the Hongkong and Canton District Committee of the London Missionary Society.

"That the District Committee place on record their high appreciation of Dr. Cantlie's ungrudging services to the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals, and their deep sense of loss about to be sustained by the Medical Mission through his departure from the colony; and that the District Secretary be directed to convey to Dr. Cantlie the Committee's most cordial thanks for the substantial aid he has rendered to the medical work during the whole period of his residence in Hongkong."

I wish to make no further remarks on that resolution except to say that I concur most heartily in every word Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart has said as to Dr. Cantlie's connection with the two hospitals and the college, and I wish further to inform Dr. Cantlie that as a permanent reminder to the public of Hongkong of his connection with the hospitals it has been resolved to place his name in each annual report during his life time as consulting surgeon to the hospital alongside the name of Dr. Manson as consulting physician. (Applause). We do this not entirely to honour Dr. Cantlie but to honour the hospitals. When many years to come our children ask us whose name it was that was so frequently recurring we shall say "The name of Cantlie, the well-known London Surgeon."

Dr. WONG I EK—Mr. Chairman, I have been asked by the other Licentiate and the students of the College of Medicine for Chinese to express in their name our deep regret that the College is losing Dr. Cantlie as its Dean, and as its Lecturer on Anatomy and Surgery. Doctor Cantlie, we thank you for all your kindness to us, your patience with us, and your willingness to help us in all circumstances. We ask you to accept from us this cup, accompanied by a small gift for Mrs. Cantlie, that you may have before you a standing reminder to you of our gratitude for the many favours we have received at your hands. We promise you that we shall do our best, by diligent efforts, to relieve the sick and suffering among our own people, to prove ourselves worthy of all the labour you have so generously bestowed upon us. We wish you a good voyage, a speedy restoration to health and strength, and all prosperity in your future life. (Applause).

Dr. CANTLIE, in rising to respond, was received with much enthusiasm. He said—Mr. Chairman, Mr. Lockhart, Mr. Francis, and Dr. Wong I Ek, I am so overwhelmed by the numerous laudatory remarks showered upon me from so many quarters that I am at a loss how to adequately acknowledge them all. It is said no prophet is without honour save in his own country, amongst his own kin and in his own house, and it is very plain by the honour you have done me to-day I am no prophet, for here amongst my own kin and in my home I am honoured beyond my deserts. Being out of the

pale of the prophets, it is no transgression to indulge in retrospection, and I can safely say that during the forty-five years of my life I have never had a prouder moment than this to-day; but were I to transgress and prophecy I can predict that at no future period of my life can I imagine a more gratifying compliment than the one paid me by my fellow-citizens to-day. A copy-book heading indelibly stamped in the memory of every one of you is that "familiarity breeds contempt." Now I have been coming out and in amongst you almost daily, some of you many times a day, and yet this frequent intercourse which should have begotten contempt seems to have completely miscarried, for I see nothing around me but sympathetic addresses, and I have most handsome presents bestowed upon me. Truly the truth of the copy-book legend is to be doubted—(laughter)—and I cannot believe any longer in it. (Laughter.) It is now some nine years since I left London and came to Hongkong. Why I came out it is difficult to say. I believe it was that having taught young medical men for some seventeen years and seen them depart abroad for the Army, the Navy, or Colonial Service, I was imbued with the spirit of seeing for myself and learning something of the diseases they talked about at home, so when my friend Dr. Manson asked me to come here and practise I readily yielded to the suggestion. I regretted giving up teaching, for that was and is my chief employment in life, so on the way out I contemplated how I could minimise the loss I had sustained in not being able to teach, and the College of Medicine for Chinese was the result. (Applause.) Shortly after landing I was terribly put out to find that I had no trained nurses to fall back upon in serious cases, so within six months I brought out Sister Maude Ingall, the first trained nurse that ever worked at her profession in China. (Applause.) Being engaged in her capacity as nurse at Government House, Sir William des Voeux was made a convert to modern nursing, hence the present able and proficient staff of nurses we have at the Civil Hospital. Still I felt that I was not advancing in knowledge as I ought. I could not observe disease as I wanted to, and I resolved to open a hospital at the Peak. (Applause.) So in 1889 I leased one house and in 1891 two houses, and converted them into a private hospital. That a public want has been met is sufficiently proved by the fact that since the opening 1,000 persons have availed themselves of the hospital at the Peak. (Applause.) I am glad to say my partners, Doctors Hartigan and Stedman, have shown their public spirit by taking the hospital off my hands, and I am convinced that under the present management and with the matrons there the hospital has a long career of success before it. (Applause.) Now you see all these schemes were undertaken from a selfish desire to benefit myself, and gratify my professional wants. Indirectly I claim to have conferred a great boon on a section of the community, but you will see it was again for a selfish end that I brought it about. One dark, wet stormy night I was called to the Hingham Dock; it was a Sunday night and late, and no dock launches were to be had. I started to walk from Kowloon Wharf, bade a friendly adieu to Dr. Dohereck at the Observatory, and stumbled on across country, as I could not find the road. When I got to the dock I was told there was no road to the Hingham dock, the most important industry of Hongkong. Such was the case, however, and I set to work to try to get one there. The then Surveyor General, Mr. Price, was a man of promises, so it was not until the late Mr. Samuel Brown, an approachable man, arrived that I managed to get the road completed. One day going up the tram I overheard the following conversation:—"What building is that?" The reply came, "Oh, that's one of Dr. Cantlie's fads." (Laughter.) "It is called the Vaccine Institute—(renewed laughter)—but it is chiefly used as a poultry yard to supply eggs and chickens for the Government House table." (loud laughter.) It seems to me that we do not give so much attention to vaccine that we should, and I should like to dwell upon this subject, but time will not allow me. We have a vaccine institute in the colony, but it does not go quite far enough. The history of the introduction of lymph into China is a long story. It is one

hundred years since the East India Company merchants brought lymph from Calcutta to Canton, and the Chinese so appreciated the benefit of its use that they got up a special hall in Canton, where vaccination was authorised and practised. But lymph requires renewal; the same lymph used over and over again from arm to arm weakens, and after seven or eight transmissions becomes impotent as a protective measure against small-pox. Yet here we are at the end of the 19th century and our efforts to do what our great grandfathers did at the end of the 18th century have been but little improved upon. The Chinese are beginning to lose their faith in lymph, because they are using a lymph which has been used over and over again. There are very few people who know that there is a vaccine institute in the colony. You all know, however, that there is one at Saigon, and also that we get lymph from Japan. Numbers of people have asked me for French lymph and others for Japanese lymph. If you could see the Japanese lymph you would find it was an abomination; it would never be used in England, as the authorities would not allow it. The French lymph is much worse. It creates very bad arms and should be absolutely forbidden to be used in the colony at all. The lymph we have at the institute is of the very best quality and should be used more widely than it is and pushed in the markets very much more than it is. We have a right to interfere in this business, for England is the home of vaccination, and you all remember that it was introduced by Sir William Jenner. We ought to do our best to introduce it into China, and the Government should spend some hundreds of pounds in order to supply all China with it. We are not doing our duty as Englishmen by remaining where we were one hundred years ago. Our grandfathers did as much as we are doing now in regard to such diseases as small-pox amongst Chinese. At present the Hongkong institute is under the direction of the Colonial Surgeon and the actual work is gratuitously done by the Veterinary Surgeon. I would place the institute under the Medical Officer of Health. I would give him a percentage upon the quantity he sells. I would let the failure or the success of the institution affect his pocket, and thereby we would soon drive French and Japanese lymph out of the market, and by a little pushing supply the Chinese with a fresh supply of good lymph. I have put this upon more pecuniary grounds, but surely we have a higher aim and duty to fulfil, namely, the protection of an enormous mass of the human race against the ravages of the terrible scourge of small-pox, and were Great Britain to supply free vaccine to the Chinese it would be a greater blessing to them than the abolition of slavery. (Applause.) I must now thank you for the great honour you have done me, and also Mr. Lockhart, the Rector of the College of Medicine for Chinese, and the students, for telling me, of the wonderful things I have done in connection with the College. But, gentlemen, my work at the hospital and the vaccine institute and the other things were done for purely selfish purposes. If they have benefitted anybody well and good. You are as well off in Hongkong with a hospital as any centre of civilisation in Europe. You must have a hospital to go to or all the doctors will become old women. (Laughter.) Consequently when I say that the work I did in connection with the College of Medicine for Chinese was welcome work and kept me well posted up in the advance of my profession you will see that it was absolutely for a selfish reason that I took such a great interest in this colony. I am going away, but I do not think for a moment that I shall cease my love for the work in connection with the Chinese College of Medicine. (Applause.) You have kindly given me permission to advocate the claims of China for education in science and medicine. Gentlemen, I mean to fulfil that mission to the best of my ability and with my whole heart. We have been sending guns and war materials and warships to China for many years and with what result? Most of them go to the bottom of the sea. Let us try what a practical mission of peace and instruction will do for them. Let Britain take her proper place in China, and in furthering knowledge. The Japanese adopted the German system of medical education, and German is the

official language of the Japanese scientists. Do you wish to see the same in China? If you have not patriotic spirit enough to care, then we have no business to hold this island, but give it up to a people impressed with higher aims and loftier principles than we appear to be endowed with. We shall not be doing our duty if we do not do our utmost to provide for medical science in Hongkong. I think it is right that we in China should have a centre of education for the development of science amongst the Chinese, and it is our duty to further the objects of the College of Medicine. I will advocate its claims, not only pecuniarily, but for its proper position whenever I get a chance. I have nothing further to say now except in regard to the future. My connection with the Sanitary Board has been referred to, and I am sure you must all deeply regret the dissensions that have taken place in regard to that institution. Gentlemen, the colony has gained a great deal by having brought out a Medical Officer of Health, but we have placed the Medical Officer of Health under the department for disease. That is absolutely a new departure to me. I cannot understand it. Health and disease are as wide apart as the poles. Health in German means holiness, and health and holiness go hand in hand. Health should be placed next to the Church, it seems to me. After that bring in the Public Works Department—(laughter)—and as a result put disease next. (loud laughter). Therefore I should put the Health Officer separate from the disease officer by the Public Works Department. Now in regard to the future I will say very little. I can speak only about health and education and not about politics. My advice is take more holidays. I advise you to take many more holidays. One firm in the colony has instituted a law by which each member of the staff takes two or three weeks' holiday every year. You clerks and taipans will get a great deal more work done if you take two or three weeks' holiday every year rather than let them accumulate, and I must ask you not to forget that the Portuguese deserve consideration. Many a man in your offices has been 10, 15, 20, or 25 years without a holiday except on medical certificate. Gentlemen, remember of what blood you are—sons of men who abolished slavery—and do not allow this form of modern slavery to creep into the customs of our daily life unheeded and unchallenged. I want to address you on one more point in regard to health. You have all observed how the Europeans are being driven further and further up the hill by the encroachments of the Chinese. You have observed how the sanatorium of Southern China, the Peak, is being gradually built over, but perhaps it has not occurred to you what is the likely result of that occupation upon our water supply. Standing at the reservoir at Pokfulum one can count twenty-three houses, including two huge hotels. I am bound to say on no gathering ground in the world could such a thing be found or permitted. The Pokfulum reservoir is a standing danger to the community, and its days are numbered when the first emblems of its contamination become known in the form of an epidemic such as typhoid fever or cholera. But important as is our water supply, fresh air is perhaps even more so, and it is the presence of the gathering area of the Pokfulum and the fear of further contamination by building dwelling houses within the area that prevents more houses being built around the tramway top building, but it ought to be opened up so that the taipans and others can reach a height of 1,200 feet where they can enjoy cool nights and their children can live and grow in the best climate in Southern China. So for these two reasons, namely, good air and water, Pokfulum reservoir ought to be cut off from supplying the potable water to the colony. Use the water for flushing, for manufactories, or the fire department. Some strong wind will do it for you some day. It has to be done and men are produced with the time and the time is at hand. (Hear, hear, and applause.) I had the whole train laid for its abolition in 1889, but a mere accident caused the miscarriage of the measure and I failed. Failure, however, should never deter any man with right on his side. I have made so many failures that I have ceased to blush for them. I have been severely criticised and the newspapers have

also poured criticisms upon me, and if I had listened to them none of the "Cantlie fads" would have come off. (Laughter.) Obstacles act but as stimulants, criticism is either useful in suggestion, or I treat it with the motto "they say—what say they—let them say." Ladies and gentlemen, I have done. I can only thank you and only tell you how I appreciate all your kind words and handsome presents. Many a time when I wrote to some prominent member of the community concerning the furtherance of one of "Cantlie's fads," I got in reply, "Don't bring any more schemes forward; we want a rest." Ladies and gentlemen, my departure will favour that end, but until I myself am at rest I will cherish the remembrance of this day, and all the good wishes you have bestowed upon me. I leave this colony and the College of Medicine for Chinese with the hope that I shall be able to do something for its furtherance in England. There is one thing that is inconstant about this colony, namely, that lecturers come and go, but there is one thing that is constant and that is the desire of Chinese for the knowledge of Western medicine. (Loud applause.)

Hon. HO KAI—I beg to propose a vote of thanks to our Chairman, Mr. Coxon. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN—I thank you for your vote of thanks. I beg to express your thanks to Dr. Cantlie for what he has told us. We have come to this conclusion—that the social, scientific, and literary success of our great empire beyond the seas is due to such men as James Cantlie. (Loud applause.)

The meeting then terminated.

Dr. Cantlie received the warmest of "send-offs" on Saturday morning when he left for England by the *China*. First of all he bade farewell to scores of friends outside his office in Wyndham Street, and in order to emphasise in the strongest manner his high popularity a cracker two or three yards long was fired and blazed away for fully ten minutes. He was conveyed to the ship in a launch chartered by the Chinese College of Medicine, and in his honour the flag of the College was displayed for the first time. A very large number of launches containing friends accompanied him to the steamer, and musical honours were accorded him by the band of the Hongkong Regiment. "Music" was also supplied by the terrific banging of crackers, and as the *China* got under way whistles shrieked a signal of good-bye, more crackers were fired, loud cheers were raised, and in response to all this ebullition of good feeling the *China* whistled a reply of thanks and steamed out of the harbour. That the doctor may have a pleasant voyage and a speedy return to good health must be the earnest wish of every resident in the colony.

THE STRANDING OF THE "ON SANG."

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

On the morning of the 7th Feb. a Marine Court of Inquiry was held at the Harbour Master's office to inquire into the circumstances connected with the stranding, on the 20th January, of the British steamship *On Sang*, official number 105,745, of London, of which William Vize Carmichael, the number of whose certificate of competency is 05612, was master and commander.

The Court was constituted as follows:—Hon. R. Murray Ramsey, R.N., Stipendiary Magistrate, President; Commander Kippelwade, R.N., H.M.S. *Centurion*; Mr. Henry Pybus, master of British steamer *Empress of India*; Mr. John Panton, master of British steamer *Victoria*; Mr. David Owen, master of British steamer *Adowa*.

The inquiry was held under the provisions of section 13 of Ordinance 26 of 1891.

The President—I have to inform the Court that the late captain of the *On Sang* has left the colony. In his absence I propose that the Court inquire into the circumstances connected with the accident to the ship as far as any evidence can be obtained and with that view I caused four officers—the first and second mates and the first and second engineers—to be summoned of come and give their evidence.

Alfred Edward Hargreaves said—I am first mate of the *On Sang*, and hold a master's

certificate issued at London in 1886. I have been on the *On Sang* since 16th October. She is a new ship and arrived off Lyemooon about 9.45 p.m. on the 20th January. I left the bridge off the island of Tantu and the second mate relieved me. I went to the fore-castle head to get the anchors ready. The Captain was on the bridge. The night was heavy and the top of the Peak was covered with mist. I did not get any special instructions to keep a look-out. There was one look-out man, a Chinaman. There was no ship in the way of the steamer between leaving Lyemooon and striking the Cust Rocks. She struck about twenty minutes past ten o'clock. I could not say what speed she was going; I suppose it was three or four knots. I heard the telegraph bell ring on two occasions. I did not get any orders from the captain. I could not say what courses were being steered. Before I left the bridge I understood from the captain that he was going to make for Kellett Island. I noticed the lights at Hunghom Docks. I did not see the rocks before striking, but a minute or two before I saw a buoy on the starboard bow and I reported it. I do not know what buoy it was; I think it was one of the Dock buoys. It was an ordinary white drum buoy. There was a flood tide at the time. I had consulted the captain on the subject of going into the harbour. I asked him where he intended to anchor, and he told me. I did not discuss the subject of tide, currents, or the general navigation of the ship beyond saying that it was a flood tide and there were strong currents. I had been to Hongkong before, and have entered the harbour on a similar night. The captain told me he was well acquainted with Hongkong harbour and knew the currents well. After the ship struck we manoeuvred her to see if we could run ashore. Previous to that a policeman had boarded the ship. We found the ship was rapidly making water and the policeman was called in order to give us information of the whereabouts of a sandy beach. The ship did not pass the rocks, but after striking she glanced off. Her head was pointed for North Point and she was taken across the harbour and beached very easily just inside the line of the telegraph cable. There was a leadman in the chains. I do not know why the captain came in at the east entrance; perhaps it was because he knew it better and it was nearer than the west entrance. We came straight from Manila. I do not know whether the captain steered by compass; I think he was off the bridge several times. The chart was in the captain's room just under the bridge. I estimated that when the vessel passed the Dock point she was two or three cables off and heading for Hongkong lights. We did not see the Channel Rocks. I did not think the tide was having an effect on the course of the ship. Between passing the Lyemooon Pass and the time I saw the buoy she was heading for Hongkong lights. I was keeping a look-out more on the Kellett Island side. We did not see the electric lights until after passing North Point. I saw the buoy three or four minutes after passing the lights at the dock. I expected to see the captain keeping more towards the Hongkong shore. I saw lights in the kerosene anchorage which I took to be riding lights, but with the aid of my glass I could not be certain whether they were. I do not know how many times the course was altered between Lyemooon Pass and the Cust Rocks, but I noticed it was altered. I did not hear any orders given from the bridge to the wheel; I was too far away.

Arthur Roberts Woodrow said—I am second officer of the *On Sang* and hold a first mate's certificate issued in London in 1895. I went on the bridge on the 20th January about 9.25 p.m., when the ship was nearly opposite D'Aguiar light. I remained on the bridge from that time until the ship struck. The captain was on the bridge all the time. I remember passing Collinson light. We were then steering by land, the captain giving all the directions. The night was heavy. Off Collinson light the engines were going full speed, which was not reduced through the Lyemooon Pass. After coming through the Pass the captain kept the ship's head as he thought fit and gave the quartermaster directions. I had never been on the bridge before when coming into Hongkong and could not form any idea as to the position of

the ship from time to time. The captain made on remark to me about the position after coming through the Pass. I was stationed by the telegraph on the bridge. I did not take any notice of the position of the ship's head, as I was at the end of the bridge and the compass was in the centre. I do not know the lights of the harbour, and did not take particular notice of them. I have been to Hongkong about half a dozen times before, but never while on the bridge. I remember a buoy being reported from the fore-castle. I remember passing lights on the starboard side shortly before. I do not remember ever seeing those lights straight ahead; to the best of my recollection they were always on the starboard bow. The course was altered between the time we left the Pass and striking, but I do not know how many times. The captain gave his orders verbally to the quartermaster. I did not form an opinion that the course was altered to counteract any set of the ship to starboard; the question did not strike me at all. When the buoy was reported I think, but I am not certain, the captain went a little more to port. He took his glass and examined the buoy, and it was shortly after that the ship struck. I do not know whether the tide was with or against us as we came through the harbour. The engines were eased to "slow" about twenty minutes after coming through the Pass; we were hardly opposite the Dock lights then. The telegraph was rung only on this occasion before we struck. We passed the buoy not a ship's length away. The full speed of the ship was 8½ or 9 knots. The captain was on the bridge the whole time, except when he went to consult the chart. I think he went down about three times, and was away only a very short time. The captain was perfectly sober. I have never seen him under the influence of drink. When the buoy was reported the captain rushed down to the chart room and immediately came up again, and the helm was starboarded, I think.

The witness Hargreaves was recalled and said—The alteration in the direction of the ship's head which was made after the buoy was reported was towards the starboard hand, not to port. In consequence of this I left the fore-castle head and went on to the bridge. As I got on to the bridge the ship struck. My object in going on the bridge was to give the captain any information, as I thought we were too close in passing the buoy. As I got on the bridge I hardly had time to speak before she struck. I said something like "Better haul her out." I did not at first think it was a rock we had struck. I did not hear the order that was given to the wheel after the buoy was reported. When I got on the bridge the captain did not make any remark to lead me to believe that his order to the wheel had been misunderstood and not carried out. I thought it was one of the Dock buoys, but I did not tell the captain so as there was not time. I went aft on to the bridge because I saw the buoy was close and because I saw the ship's head pointing towards the light on Kowloon Point.

No further witnesses were called. The President asked the first mate if the quartermaster was in the colony and the reply was that he had gone to Shanghai as well as the captain.

The finding of the Court was as follows—We find that the British steamship *On Sang*, official number 105,745, of London, of which William Vize Carmichael, was master, arrived off the east entrance to Hongkong at about 9.45 p.m. on the 20th January, 1896. That the captain had announced his intention of anchoring in the vicinity of Kellett Island. The ship proceeded through the Lyemooon Pass and about half an hour after she struck on the Cust Rocks. She was afterwards beached on the Hongkong side to the west of North Point. From the evidence before it the Court has formed the opinion that the captain would have displayed better judgment if he had not attempted to enter the port at night, and it would appear that his local knowledge did not justify him in doing so. Nor does it appear that any special precautions were taken under the circumstances. The master, however, has not appeared before the Court, and the Court is informed that he has left the colony, although there are grounds for believing that before he left he was aware that a Court would be appointed

to investigate the casualty to his ship. His departure, therefore, has the appearance of an unwillingness to appear before such Court. In his absence, however, and without his having an opportunity of making a defence, the Court does not deal with his certificate. The officers appear to have conducted themselves in a proper and becoming manner under the circumstances. Given under our hand and seal, &c.

THE TUNG WAH HOSPITAL.

A Commission has been appointed by H.E. the Governor to enquire into the working and organization of the Tung Wah Hospital with special reference to the following details, viz.:

1.—Whether the Hospital is fulfilling the object and purpose of its incorporation.

2.—If yes, whether the Commission can suggest or recommend any matter or thing by which the present organization and administration of the Hospital can be improved or carried on more effectively.

3.—If no, whether the object and purpose of the Hospital can be fulfilled by any other organization, with any suggestions or recommendations the Commission may make on the subject.

The Commissioners are the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary, Hon. C. P. Chater, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. Ho Kai, and Hon. A. M. Thomson, Acting Colonial Treasurer. The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart is to be the Chairman, and three members, inclusive of the Chairman, are to constitute a quorum.

It is directed that the examination of witnesses shall be held in private.

FIRES IN HONGKONG.

On the morning of the 6th Feb. the Fire Brigade were busily engaged from one o'clock until seven o'clock in extinguishing two fires, one of which was a very serious one. The firemen were first called to a second hand clothes shop at 56, Jervois Street, where an outbreak had occurred on the second floor. There was some delay in getting water and before the Brigade, who were under Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings and Mr. Badeley, could conquer the flames the first and second floors had been burnt out, in addition to a picture and fan shop at 231, Queen's Road Central, which backs the shop in Jervois Street. The building in Jervois Street was insured in the Transatlantic Fire Insurance Company (Messrs. Siemens and Co., agents) for \$13,000, and the ground and first floors of 231, Queen's Road Central, were insured in the China Fire Insurance Company for \$2,000. Nos. 229 and 233, Queen's Road Central were slightly damaged by water. The origin of the fire is not known. The firemen were just preparing to leave when the bell at No. 5 station sounded a fire in the West district. The hose was rapidly rolled up and the Brigade proceeded with all haste to Queen's Road West, where three shops, Nos. 55, 57, and 59, were well alight. The fire, which originated in the basement of a cigar shop at No. 57 through the overheating of some tobacco which had been carelessly left on a furnace to dry, spread with alarming rapidity, but fortunately the Brigade had a plentiful and speedy supply of water. It was a long time, however, before the firemen could obtain a mastery over the flames, and their efforts were mainly directed to preventing the spread of the fire, as it was seen that the three shops were hopelessly doomed. It was not until seven o'clock that the men were able to leave, and they are to be commended for confining the fire within the limits they did. The basement of No. 57, where the fire originated, was insured with Messrs. Sander and Co. for \$2,000; the first floor was an opium divan and the second floor a coolie house, which were not insured. The ground floor of No. 59 is used as a tinsmith's shop and was insured with Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann and Co. for \$2,400; the first floor was a coolie house and the second floor a family house on which no insurance had been effected. The ground floor of No. 55 is a paper shop and the second floor a coolie house; no insurance had been effected. The second floor of No. 61, a dry goods store, was also completely burnt out, and it was insured in

the Meiji Insurance Company for \$1,500. The first floor was not insured, and the ground floor, used as a carpenter's shop, was damaged by water, and was insured in the Meiji Insurance Company for \$2,000. The door on the ground floor of No. 53, a cigar shop, was scorched by the flames. The whole of this building was insured with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. for \$7,500.

At 11.15 on the 8th Feb. a fire broke out on the first floor of 133, Praya West. The whole of the building was used as the Tan Wo rice shop and the business was also carried on on the ground and first floors of 28, Tse Mi Lane, which adjoins the shop. The second floor of 28, Tse Mi Lane was used as a family house. The Fire Brigade turned out with their usual promptitude, and a plentiful supply of fresh and salt water was obtained. In three-quarters of an hour the fire was got under, but both buildings were completely gutted, and the houses on either side were slightly damaged by water. The Tan Wo shop was insured with Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann & Co. for \$6,500. The fire was caused by the upsetting of a kerosine lamp.

FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY.]

TAIPEIFU, 24th January.

The north-eastern seaboard of Formosa, especially that portion to the south of Suao bay, may be described as "straight up and down." High and densely wooded mountains rise abruptly from the shore, on which a heavy surf is constantly beating, and with a depth of water just outside the first breaker of rarely less than fifteen fathoms. In the mountains live the savages, and at intervals where patches of arable land appear, at the mouth of mountain streams which in the rainy season have swept down deposits of sand and mould, we find the Chinese squatter, who carries on a precarious existence by bartering with the savage, while his fields yield him beans, ground nuts, sweet potatoes, and hemp. But more extensive we find the big plain which stretches towards the north from Suao bay. It is bounded on the east by a stormy rock bound coast and to the north-west and south hemmed in by high mountains teeming with savages who value Chinese heads as the richest of their possessions. This plain, which is known as the Kapsulan district, is not excelled in fertility by any portion of the island, and consequently is peopled by a plentiful number of Chinese, but a class who have always possessed a bad reputation. Gelan, the principal settlement of the district, is a walled city, one of the largest and most prosperous in the north and next to Changhwa the most troublesome. The inhabitants had nearly all taken sides in a clan fight, which in consequence became of enormous proportions, with more encounters during an equal period than occurred during the French Revolution, but the Chinese being more humane than those "Western barbarians" brought only a few men in the field at a time, and hard words, although fired at each other with great violence, made the battlefield more blue than bloody. However, these warriors to impress each other with terror had armed themselves—well, Chinese fashion. These people had defied the Chinese mandarins in more than one instance and had for some little time before the arrival of the Japanese failed to pay any taxes whatsoever, and when the mandarin expostulated they rattled their spears, took stray shots at his guard, and eventually ended up the only gentleman himself. As no other tax collector applied for the situation Kapsulan was dropped off the roll. Having enjoyed this state of affairs for over a year and impressed with their own fearfulness, the "Gelanites" awaited the Japanese, who were busily engaged in clearing out the Chinese soldiers. This finished, troops visited Gelan, but as no Chinese soldiers appeared it simply amounted to a peaceful reconnaissance. But this was too much for the Chinese; the Japanese also feared them and had not dared to fire even a salute. Later, troops arrived and a magistrate was established at Gelan. This to the Chinese was a little too much and might lead up to taxes. Therefore the two clans, so long enemies, embraced each other in the common cause, and after debating whether it would be best to simply clear Kap-

sulan of the Japanese or clear them out of the whole island, the attack was made on the small Japanese garrisons scattered throughout the district, with the results I have already given in my previous letter. So amazingly ignorant were these rebels that they returned a few days later and made an attack on Gelan from three sides, but upon the Japanese sending out a small detachment they retreated to the north.

Meanwhile Japanese reinforcements had landed at charming Suao bay, with the intention of sending a heavy detachment to the north, while a sufficient force left Kelung overland to join the southern detachment, thus hoping to be able to surround the rebels. General Okubo, who was in command, had about a thousand men of the south brigade in the southern detachment. Word had been received that the rebels were assembled at Shoke, a village about eleven miles north; so leaving Gelan on the 11th at daylight, the troops advanced on that place, and after traversing about half the distance they met about 1,500 rebels entrenched in a small village, who after resisting stoutly the approach of the Japanese for several hours retreated, some going towards the mountains, others in the direction of To-e. Over three hundred dead of the rebels were found, while the Japanese loss was four killed and eleven wounded. The troops remained in the village over night. The next day two companies of infantry were sent to Cho-ho, which is on the road from To-e to Taipeifu.

On the 19th the rebels were attacked near Kah-ho and Da-ba-yang. After a loss of sixty they retreated towards Sancho, a few escaping to the western mountains. The troops spent the 20th in To-e, making a reconnaissance of the whole district that it might be swept of all rebels.

The rebels having retreated towards Taipeifu, two companies were sent to follow them, while troops were sent yesterday from Taipeifu to head them off. If they do not escape again, we may expect to hear the last of the rebels in a few days.

Many prisoners have been taken and several executions resulted. Some of the Hakkas who had been engaged in their little rebellion earlier in the season laughed at the prisoners as they were brought in. "You have had your taste also," they remarked as the rebels were lead by, "we had ours last fall."

Up to the 8th of this month this late outbreak has cost the Japanese a loss of 178 men, as follows:—

| | Loss. | Killed. | Wounded. |
|-------------------|-------|---------|----------|
| Officers | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Non-Com. officers | 10 | 9 | 1 |
| Privates | 94 | 48 | 46 |
| Interpreters | 2 | 2 | — |
| Civil officers | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Police officers | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Policemen | 25 | 23 | 2 |
| Coolies | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| Workmen | 25 | 27 | 2 |

Total loss 178; killed 120, wounded 58.

Chinese loss probably about 1,000 killed.

TAIPEIFU, 1st February.

On January 25th a detachment of 200 soldiers encountered about an equal number of rebels about 20 miles to the south-east of Taipeifu. After an engagement in which fifteen rebels were killed and two Japanese wounded the rebels made their customary exit. The Japanese followed them, but found the pathway abounding in traps prepared for the special benefit of the "wojen." The favourite method seemed to be of stretching a line or more, often a vine, from side to side, which was connected with the triggers of rifles staked in the underbrush in such a manner that if a person passing by should disturb the vine they would have almost simultaneously a bullet in close proximity.

Although several rifles were in this way discharged, fortunately no one was hurt. Along the route were found many spears and rifles and considerable ammunition.

January 27th, the German Emperor's birthday was celebrated in a befitting manner by a most pleasant reception and sumptuous dinner given by Dr. Gruenwald, the acting German Consul, at the Twatutia Club. H.E. Admiral Count Kabayama, Governor General, Major General Oshima, Rear-Admiral Tsunoda, Chief of Naval Department, Major-General Murai, Major-General Hishizima, Colonel Okuba, Rear-

Admiral Tanaka, Prefect, Dr. Okubo, Ph.D., Councillor, Mr. Kasima Mura, formerly Military Attache in the Japanese legation at Berlin, Captain Miyazaki, Adjutant of the Governor, were the Japanese present, while all the foreign community, including the English Consul, Mr. Ayrton, from Hobe, were on hand. However, as the whole north of Formosa is limited to twelve foreigners the Japanese guests were scarcely outnumbered. The barren club building was, by draping with flags and the profuse use of flowers, converted into a very attractive banquet hall. At 7.30 in the evening all were seated. The usual toasts proposed on such occasions and the magnificent dinner finished, the guests removed to the library, where after congenial exchange of pleasantries for an hour or so the guests departed. Thus was concluded the memorable day, and the evening, while most enjoyable to all, has a more important significance; the ultimate influence of such gatherings will be to increase the goodwill, the cordial understandings of the little foreign community with the new masters of Formosa.

JAS. W. DAVIDSON.

WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Company, Limited, was held on the afternoon of the 10th Feb. at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Meyer and Co., 5, Queen's Road Central. Mr. F. H. Garrels presided, and there were also present Messrs. P. Sachse and H. Stollerfoht (Directors), W. Rudeloff (Secretary), C. Palmer, F. Henderson, C. Schwencke, F. G. Schroeter, H. Ehmer, O. Kleinschmidt, and C. Heerman.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for several days I shall, with your permission, follow the usual course and take them as read. From them you will have been glad to observe that last year's working has been very satisfactory to the Company. The amount of cargo offered to us for storage was, for several months, larger than the room at our disposal, so that we had to hire additional godowns in order to accommodate our customers. Some of these are still under lease to us. Although, of course, we hope that a similar happy state of our affairs may continue, still it would be too sanguine to rely on such an expectation, the quantity of goods offered to us for storage being of too uncertain a nature. Your General Managers, with the approval of the Consulting Committee, have therefore thought it best not to advance the rate of dividend by more than 2 per cent, as compared with last year. This will enable the creation of a reserve fund, which will certainly be useful, in case times should get worse again, as well as if at any future time extraordinary repairs should become necessary. Ordinary repairs, as you know, are always paid out of working account, and the buildings kept in as good a state of repair as possible. To provide as much as possible against anything unforeseen we have thought it well to insure our main buildings on the Praya and Queen's Road against damage by typhoon. For that purpose the buildings have recently been surveyed by the architects of the Insurance Company, and I am glad to say that with the exception of some trifling alterations and repairs, which are now being executed, these gentlemen found everything in good order. Competition in the storage business remains as keen as ever, but with some outside godowns rented by us we could afford to lose some business without materially reducing our net revenue, by simply returning the godowns now under lease to their owners. There is nothing further that occurs to me, but if any of the shareholders present have any questions to ask I shall be happy to answer them.

There were no questions and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts. Mr. SCHWENCKE seconded. Carried.

The CHAIRMAN moved the re-election of Messrs. P. Sachse and H. Stollerfoht on the Consulting Committee.

Mr. EHMER seconded.

Carried.

Mr. RUDELOFF proposed and Mr. HEERMANN seconded the re-election of Mr. Fullerton Henderson as auditor.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen, and I thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be sent out to-morrow.

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The fifteenth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at noon, on the 5th Feb., at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. Hon. J. J. Bell Irving presided, and amongst those present were—Messrs. J. H. Cox, J. H. Lewis, W. Parfitt, V. H. Deacon, F. O. Stedman, E. C. Ellis, V. A. C. Hawkins, K. MacK. Ross, R. Inglis, R. H. Burder, D. Landale, W. Parlame, T. F. Hough, and Ho Fuk.

The notice convening the meeting was read.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report has been in your hands for some days and with your approval I will take it as read. We have again to congratulate ourselves on a satisfactory year's working, and although the number of steamers fitted with refrigerating machinery continues to increase we have been able to dispose of a larger quantity of ice during the year 1895 than during any preceding twelve months. The company's premises are in excellent order and the town depot has been redrained at a cost of \$378 in accordance with the sanitary laws. As mentioned in the report, it will be necessary to expend some money within the next two or at the outside three years in enlarging the works and improving the machinery in order to meet the increasing demand for ice during the months of July, August, and September, which necessitates the upkeep of a much larger plant than would be necessary were the deliveries more equally divided over the other months of the year. Under these circumstances the General Managers trust the conservative policy they propose to adopt in dealing with the profits will meet with the approval of shareholders. With regard to this year I may say there appears at present every prospect of the results being again favourable. Owing to the decline in the value of coals the working expenses will probably be slightly less, and as the vacant offices in the Company's town property have been let for a period of three years, our rent account may be expected to show an increase of approximately \$1,500. It does not occur to me to make any further remarks, but if any shareholder would like any further information I shall be pleased to give it.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. LEWIS seconded.

Carried.

Mr. Cox proposed and Mr. PARFITT seconded the re-election of Mr. Thomas Arnold as auditor.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting. The dividend warrants will be sent out to-morrow.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-seventh ordinary general meeting to be held at the offices of the General Managers, on Thursday, the 27th February:—

The General Managers and Consulting Committee have pleasure in laying before the shareholders the twenty-seventh annual report of the Company.

1894 Account.—The result of the year's working shows a profit of \$92,503.93, which sum, with the approval of the Consulting Committee, it is now proposed to deal with as follows:—

Bonus to contributing shareholders ... \$20,103.93
Dividend of \$9.05 per share ... 72,400.00

\$92,503.93

1895 Account.—This account shows a balance at credit of \$260,712.64.

MORTGAGES.

The General Managers and Consulting Committee are satisfied that the securities held by the Company form an ample guarantee for the advances made.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Messrs. J. S. Moses and C. J. Holliday having left the colony, Messrs. M. D. Ezekiel and A. Ross have been nominated to the vacant seats, and their appointment requires to be confirmed. The present members, Messrs. Chater, Bird, Lewis, Ezekiel, and Ross, retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Fullerton Henderson and A. Coxon, whose re-election is recommended.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

General Managers,

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.
Hongkong, 4th February, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

| Dr. | LIABILITIES. | \$ | c. |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----|----|
| Capital subscribed | \$2,000,000.00 | | |
| Amount paid-up | 400,000.00 | | |
| Reserve fund | 1,000,000.00 | | |
| Uncollected dividends | 2,090.32 | | |
| Accounts payable | 37,898.15 | | |
| Working account, 1894:— | | | |
| Net profit | 92,503.93 | | |
| Working account, 1895:— | | | |
| Amount brought forward from below | 260,712.64 | | |
| | \$1,798,205.04 | | |

| Cr. | ASSETS. | \$ | c. |
|---|--------------|----|----|
| Cash, on current account with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation | 12,961.52 | | |
| Cash in hands of General Managers | 3,729.12 | | |
| Fixed deposits:— | | | |
| Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation | \$300,000.00 | | |
| Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China | 50,000.00 | | |
| Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd. | 50,000.00 | | |
| | 400,000.00 | | |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--|--|
| Mortgages:— | | | |
| In Hongkong | \$634,500.00 | | |
| In Shanghai | 442,146.08 | | |
| In Foochow | 59,000.00 | | |
| In Amoy | 20,000.00 | | |
| | 1,175,646.03 | | |

| | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--|
| Investments:— | | | |
| Chinese Imperial Government loan, 1886 | \$33,066.69 | | |
| Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures | 60,000.00 | | |
| 200 shares in the Hongkong Land Investment Co., Ltd. | 13,000.00 | | |
| 5 shares in the China Fire Insurance Co., Limited | 375.00 | | |
| | 106,441.69 | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Steam fire engines | 2,000.00 | | |
| Accounts receivable | 92,426.68 | | |
| | \$1,793,205.04 | | |

| | WORKING ACCOUNT, 1894. | \$ | c. |
|--|------------------------|----|----|
| To losses and claims paid | 72,448.25 | | |
| To return premia and re-insurances | 8,761.60 | | |
| To remuneration to Consulting Committee and auditors | 6,500.00 | | |
| To balance as above | 92,503.93 | | |
| | \$180,213.78 | | |

| | | | |
|--|--------------|--|--|
| By balance from last account | \$187,223.19 | | |
| By profit on exchange | 11,101.86 | | |
| By increased value of investments | \$2,818.00 | | |
| By profit on sale of Hongkong Inland Lot No. 37 | 327.22 | | |
| | \$3,145.22 | | |
| Less loss on property Hongkong R.P. of Inland Lot No. 265, resumed by the Government | 1,256.49 | | |
| | 1,888.73 | | |
| | \$180,213.78 | | |

| | WORKING ACCOUNT, 1895. | \$ | c. |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----|----|
| To losses and claims paid | 41,928.66 | | |
| To charges | 21,399.28 | | |
| To commissions | 26,985.29 | | |
| To fire brigade expenses | 799.24 | | |
| To exchange | 1,846.58 | | |
| To balance as above | 260,712.64 | | |
| | \$353,671.69 | | |

| | | | |
|--|--------------|--|--|
| By net premia received, less returns and re-insurances | \$250,085.66 | | |
| By interest | 103,438.63 | | |
| By transfer fees | 148.00 | | |
| | \$353,671.69 | | |

THE SHANGHAI GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A meeting of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce was held at the office, No. 1, Kiukiang Road, on Monday, the 3rd February, 1896, at 4 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. A. P. MacEwen (Chairman), J. Chapsal, C. J. Dudgeon, John Graham, A. Korff, W. D. Little, J. H. McMichael, D. M. Moses, E. B. Skottowe, and the Secretary.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Facilities given to Shippers by Conference Steamers.—A letter was read that had been received from the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce on this subject, and it was resolved to reply that it treated of a matter which could hardly be dealt with by the Shanghai Chamber.

The British Mail Contract.—A letter from the Hongkong Chamber was read which pointed out that the Government contemplated some changes when the existing contract terminated in January, 1898, and it was resolved to send an energetic protest against such innovations as being decidedly detrimental to foreign trade in China.

Unchopped Piece Goods.—A letter from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, enclosing copy of a despatch from the Foreign Office, was read, and it was decided to reply that the information required should be forwarded if possible.

After the transaction of further business certain correspondence was ordered for publication of which we reproduce the following:—

FACILITIES GIVEN TO SHIPPERS BY CONFERENCE STEAMERS.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1896.

Dear Sir.—The existing arrangements—so detrimental to the trade interests of Great Britain—by which shippers of goods by certain lines of steamers running between China and the United States and the Continent of Europe are granted more favourable rates of freight than in the case of direct shipments from and to Great Britain has no doubt already engaged the attention of your Chamber.

It seems very desirable that steps should be taken towards endeavouring to redress this grievance, and in view of possible common action on the part of your and this Chamber, the Committee will be greatly obliged if you can afford them any information relating to this system of preferential freight as it affects shipments to and from your port—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

F. HENDERSON,
Secretary.

Drummond Hay, Esq.,

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai.

THE BRITISH MAIL CONTRACT.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1896.

Sir.—In the accompanying correspondence having reference to present Mail Contract terminating in January, 1898, the question is asked by the Post Office authorities, London, in connection with other suggested alterations, whether the terminal point of the Imperial subsidised mail service to the Far East might not be made Hongkong instead of Shanghai.

The point raised must necessarily be of interest to you, and as it may not have been otherwise brought to your notice I have much pleasure in handing you copies of the correspondence above referred to, for the information of your Chamber.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

F. HENDERSON,
Secretary.

Drummond Hay Esq.,

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai.

General Post Office,

London, 25th October, 1895.

Sir,—I beg leave to inform you that the conditions under which the Mail Service between this country and the East is to be performed on the expiration of the existing contract in January, 1898, are now under consideration.

It will probably be decided to call for tenders for a service on the lines of the existing arrangements; and I shall be glad to learn whether in your opinion it would be possible to

shorten the stoppages at Hongkong fixed under the present contract. These stoppages, as you are aware, at present are 24 hours on the outward and 48 hours on the homeward voyage.

I should be glad if you would, as on former occasions, consult the Local Chamber of Commerce on this point; but you will no doubt in any case let me know what is the shortest stoppage required for landing and embarking the mails.

The question has been raised whether the future terminal point of the Imperial subsidised mail service with the Far East might not be Hongkong instead of Shanghai, the arrangements for the conveyance of the mails between Hongkong and Shanghai being left to your office. On this point also I should be glad to receive your remarks. Of course, for such conveyance of mails from Europe your office would be entitled to a mileage proportion of the union sea rates.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

S. WAYSON.

The Postmaster-General, Hongkong.

SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of directors for presentation at the seventh annual meeting of shareholders to be held on the 11th February:—

The directors beg to present their seventh annual report and a statement of the Company's accounts for the year 1895, and in doing so they think they may congratulate the shareholders on the steady progress the Company is making in its earning power.

The profit on the working account stands at Taels 56,490.58 as against Taels 43,561.33 last year.

The profit and loss account, after deducting the amount of interim dividend paid in July, shows a credit balance of Taels 42,935.77 on 31st December. This sum the directors would propose to divide as follows:—

To pay a final dividend of 4½ per cent. on the paid-up capital (making 7½ per cent. for the year) Taels 36,616.50
To transfer to reserve fund (interest for 1895 on undeveloped portions of No. 2 and No. 5 Estates) 2,421.26
To carry forward to new account " " 3,898.01

Nos. 1 & 4 Estates call for no comment, the rentals are found to be the same as they did last year.

No. 2 Estate.—The terrace of eight foreign houses referred to in last year's report has been finished and is now in occupation. The terrace of seven Chinese houses, North Szechuen Road is approaching completion and the houses have already been taken at satisfactory rates. A further terrace of ten Chinese smaller houses in the same road are well forward, and the continuation of the terrace of ten Chinese houses is about to be commenced. Two Chinese Chinese houses have been completed during the year, all of which are well let. Sixty-six houses have been begun and when these are completed there will be little land in this estate left for Chinese purposes. Almost all rentals, both Chinese and foreign, have been slightly increased during the year.

No. 3 Estate.—In October last the directors received an offer of Taels 167,000 for this property and, considering it satisfactory, accepted it. As, however, the payment of the purchase money has not been completed the profit, some Taels 30,000, cannot appear in the 1895 accounts.

No. 5 Estate.—The development of this estate has continued steadily during the year and the last block to be built upon is now being taken in hand. The houses have mostly been occupied, and fairly satisfactory results.

No. 6 Estate.—This property, consisting of the Jintee and Sin Wo compounds (coloured Lots Nos. 22, 25, 26, and 27), was bought in December for Taels 300,000, and the directors feel confident it will eventually become a valuable acquisition to the Company. There has not been time yet for a full consideration of the plans for improving the property.

DEBENTURES.

With regard to the trust deed, to which reference was made at last meeting, your directors have to announce its due execution. They have to thank Messrs. Charles Dowdall and Neil Macleod, M.D., for having kindly undertaken the trust, under which estates Nos. 1 and 2 are specially held. Your directors have thought it desirable, in view of the recent acquisitions of property, to announce the issue, from the 1st January, 1896, of the last instalment of the Taels 1,000,000 authorized. To provide for further possible requirements of the Company, a resolution will be proposed at the annual meeting to authorize

the directors to issue debentures to the extent of Taels 1,000,000 in addition to the amount already authorized and under issue.

Capital on 31st December, 1895, stands at Taels 813,700 and the directors have thought it advisable to invite full payment of those shares now not fully paid-up.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. Dudgeon retires by rotation, but offers himself for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The directors have to regret the loss of their late auditor, Mr. Francis, who died shortly after the last annual meeting, and they wish to record their appreciation of the valuable service he has rendered the Company since the date of its formation. Mr. Charles H. King was appointed to succeed Mr. Francis, and he again offers his services for the current year.

H. R. HEARN, Chairman.

WORKING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

| Dr. | Tls. cts. |
|---|-----------|
| To brokerage on debentures | 1,901.00 |
| To advertising | 174.89 |
| To Agency management | 7,500.00 |
| To interest | 28,157.78 |
| To legal expenses | 357.19 |
| To directors' fees | 2,000.00 |
| To auditor's fee | 200.00 |
| To trustees' fee (half-year) | 250.00 |
| To balance transferred to profit and loss account | 56,490.58 |

Taels 97,031.24

| Cr. | Tls. cts. |
|---|------------|
| By gross rentals | 109,457.52 |
| Less fire insurance, taxes, water, repairs, &c. | 12,805.85 |
| | 96,651.67 |
| By transfer fees | 130.12 |
| By commission | 249.45 |

Taels 97,031.24

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

| 28th Feb., 1895. | Dr. | Tls. cts. |
|--|-----|-----------|
| To final dividend 1894 (at 4 per cent.) | | 27,642.00 |
| To interest on No. 2 estate 1894 transferred to reserve fund | | 3,718.67 |
| 31st July, 1895. | | |
| To interim dividend 1895 (at 5 per cent.) | | 21,628.20 |
| 31st Dec., 1895. | | |
| To balance | | 42,935.77 |

Taels 95,922.64

| 1st Jan., 1896. | Cr. | Tls. cts. |
|---|-----|-----------|
| By balance | | 37,010.80 |
| 31st Dec., 1895. | | |
| By interest on No. 2 and No. 3 estates for 1895 transferred | | 2,421.26 |
| By balance working account, 1895 | | 56,490.58 |

Taels 95,922.64

RESERVE FUND ACCOUNT.

| 31st Dec., 1895. | Dr. | Tls. cts. |
|------------------|-----|-----------|
| To balance | | 37,224.97 |

\$37,224.97

| 1st Jan., 1896. | Cr. | Tls. cts. |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------|
| By balance | | 33,508.80 |
| 28th Feb., 1895. | | |
| By interest on No. 2 estate for 1894 | | 3,718.67 |

Taels 37,224.97

BALANCE SHEET.

| ASSETS. | Tls. cts. |
|--------------------|------------|
| Estate No. 1 | 519,642.65 |
| Estate No. 2 | 531,955.09 |
| Estate No. 3 | 114,829.16 |
| Estate No. 4 | 129,630.06 |
| Estate No. 5 | 86,569.61 |
| Estate No. 6 | 300,024.22 |
| Cash due by Agents | 594.54 |
| Sundry debtors | 13,681.81 |
| Sundry mortgages | 220,383.33 |

Taels 1,917,310.47

LIABILITIES.

| | Tls. cts. |
|---|------------|
| Capital paid-up | 813,700.00 |
| Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, current account | 19,662.08 |
| Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, advance account | 250,000.00 |
| Debentures bearing 6 per cent. interest | 500,000.00 |
| Debentures bearing 5½ per cent. interest | 250,000.00 |
| Profit and loss account | 42,935.77 |
| Unclaimed dividends | 136.80 |
| Sundry creditors | 3,850.85 |
| Reserve fund | 37,224.97 |

Taels 1,917,310.47

CRICKET.

THE CRICKET CLUB v. THE NAVY.

The following is the score and analysis:—

| THE NAVY. | | | | | |
|---|----|-------------------------|-----|--|--|
| Lt. W. H. C. S. Thring, run out | 0 | b Firth | 27 | | |
| Dr. Pead, b Firth | 17 | b Firth | 16 | | |
| Lt. Perry Ayscough, l.b.w., b Vallings | 1 | c Greenfield, b Firth | 3 | | |
| Capt. Mercer, R.M.L.I., b Vallings | 0 | b Firth | 5 | | |
| Lt. F. A. Powlett, c Lawson, b Firth | 5 | b Gillingham | 30 | | |
| H. M. C. Elliott, run out | 18 | c Vallings b Gillingham | 5 | | |
| H. C. Rawson, run out | 10 | c Lawson, b Firth | 17 | | |
| Captain Lang, R.N., b Firth | 4 | b Vallings | 13 | | |
| Lt. T. L. Shelford, c Gillingham, b Firth | 0 | not out | 6 | | |
| G. R. Blount, not out | 1 | b Gillingham | 3 | | |
| J. M. Steel, absent | — | c Lawson b Vallings | 0 | | |
| Extras | 6 | Extras | 12 | | |
| Total | 62 | Total | 137 | | |

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

| Overs | Maid | Runs | Wides | N.B. | Wickets |
|-----------------|------|------|-------|------|---------|
| First Innings. | | | | | |
| Vallings | 11 | 2 | 32 | — | 2 |
| Firth | 18 | 9 | 15 | — | 4 |
| Lawson | 6 | 1 | 10 | — | — |
| Hancock | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Second Innings. | | | | | |
| Vallings | 14 | 3 | 30 | — | 2 |
| Firth | 31 | 10 | 41 | — | 5 |
| Lawson | 3 | 1 | 8 | — | — |
| Hancock | 5 | 3 | 8 | — | — |
| Gillingham | 10 | 3 | 37 | — | 3 |

THE CLUB

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-------------------|----|--|--|
| G. D. Campbell, b Shelford | 12 | | | | |
| R. H. B. Hancock, c Ayscough, b Shelford | 9 | not out | 20 | | |
| C. M. Firth, c Ayscough, b Elliott | 5 | | | | |
| Surg-Major Johnston, b Shelford | 10 | | | | |
| E. Mast, c Pead, b Shelford | 9 | c Pead b Shelford | 24 | | |
| J. A. Lawson, c Pead, b Shelford | 9 | b Shelford | 15 | | |
| Rev. G. Vallings, run out | 18 | | | | |
| J. R. Gillingham, b Shelford | 7 | | | | |
| W. M. Greenfield, b Powlett | 41 | | | | |
| A. Anderson, b Elliott | 2 | not out | 6 | | |
| G. A. Woodcock, not out | 12 | | | | |
| Extras | 4 | | | | |
| Total | 138 | Total | 63 | | |

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

| Overs | Maid | Runs | Wides | N.B. | Wickets |
|-----------------|------|------|-------|------|---------|
| First Innings. | | | | | |
| T. Shelford | 26 | 5 | 61 | — | 4 |
| Elliott | 29 | 5 | 68 | — | 2 |
| F. A. Powlett | 3.2 | — | 5 | — | 1 |
| Second Innings. | | | | | |
| Elliott | 8 | 1 | 40 | — | — |
| Shelford | 7 | 1 | 25 | — | 2 |

It was unfortunate that the return match between the Club and the Navy should be to some extent spoilt by the conditions of the weather; conditions which are very unusually experienced here during the cricket season. As a consequence of the rain, which had fallen continuously if not heavily for some days, the wicket was in a very sodden condition, which, while it did not give much assistance to the bowlers directly, was undoubtedly the cause of the low scoring and the rather slow rate of run getting. The Navy, who are fairly strong on the station now, were well represented, the only notable absentee being Arbuthnot, whilst on the other hand the Club team was a good strong combination.

Successful in the toss, the Navy took the innings and sent in Thring and Pead to the bowling of Firth and Vallings. The start was highly inauspicious, as three wickets fell with the addition of one single unit to the score and half the batsmen had succumbed before the telegraph board showed 30. Unfortunately the succeeding batsmen did little to improve matters and the whole side (they batted one short) was eventually disposed of for 62, to which total Pead and Elliott had contributed more than half the runs. Firth captured 4 wickets for 15 runs and Vallings 2 for 32, the remaining three batsmen being run out.

The Club's first attempt promised to be a not much more brilliant affair than that of the Navy, the four best wickets on the side being down for 45. At this period, however, some of the later batsmen came to the assistance of their side, and Vallings, Greenfield, and Woodcock, with 18, 41, and 12 not out, pulled the total up to 138 before the side was disposed of.

Shelford bowled very well and had the highly creditable analysis of six wickets for 61.

The second effort of the Navy was a much more successful affair, and by the aid of useful contributions from several of the players—notably Thring and Powlett with 27 and 30 respectively—the score mounted to 137 before the last wicket fell, leaving the Club with 63 win. These runs were knocked off by Lawson, Hancock, and Mast, for the loss of two batsmen, and victory eventually rested with the Club by 8 wickets. Firth bowled very successfully again in the second innings of the Navy, his analysis for the whole match being 11 wickets for 56 runs—almost a record on the Hongkong ground, we should say.

On the afternoon of Saturday the massed bands of H.M.S. *Centurion*, *Narcissus*, and *Immortalité* played upon the ground, much to the enjoyment of the members of the Club, and by the kindness of their opponents.

HONGKONG.

A good deal of rain has fallen this week and wet weather seems to have set in for the Chinese New Year, which commences to-day. In the Appeal Court on the 5th Feb. the sentence of imprisonment passed on a well known Chinaman for using insulting language in the Police Court was upheld, and on the same day the shareholders in the Hongkong Ice Company, Limited, held their general meeting. In the afternoon Dr. Cantlie, who left the colony last Saturday for England, was made the recipient of farewell addresses and presentations at the City Hall and complimentary speeches were made on the occasion. On Thursday his Excellency the Governor delivered an important speech at the distribution of prizes at Queen's College. A Marine Court of Inquiry was held on Friday respecting the stranding of the *On Sang* in the harbour, and on Saturday and Monday evenings the Amateur Dramatic Club successfully produced "Creatures of Impulse" and "Trial by Jury" at the City Hall. On Monday the ordinary meeting of shareholders in the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Company, Limited, was held, and on Tuesday the Legislative Council met for the second time this session.

Dr. Stedman is gazetted Surgeon-Lieutenant in the Field Battery of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, supernumerary to the establishment.

The stamp revenue last month amounted to \$19,003, being an increase of \$1,685 on the amount collected in the corresponding month last year.

The Volunteer Corps took part in the mobilization movements on Saturday. On Sunday they held a Church parade and attended Union Church.

Hongkong musical circles are about to lose another prominent member, Mr. W. M. Wood, of the Mercantile Bank, having been ordered to Ceylon to take charge of the Bank's branch there.

At the Central Police Station on Wednesday night Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., gave a lecture on the Navy League. There was a large attendance, and Mr. Francis fully explained the objects of the League.

The following telegram from Raub, dated 3rd February, has been received by the Singapore secretary:—"Rough cleaning up of battery yielded 1,350 oz. amalgam, estimated quantity of stone crushed being 1,134 tons."

On Monday afternoon Mr. Prosser sold by auction a piece of Crown land known as Kowloon Inland Lot No. 674. It contains 7,500 square feet, the annual rental is \$106, and the upset price was \$1,500. The lot was purchased by Mr. M. J. D. Stephens for \$3,150.

On the morning of the 10th Feb. a Chinaman died at the Tung Wah Hospital from injuries he received on board the steamer *Amara*. The vessel arrived off Lamma Island from Singapore on the night of the 8th inst. and preparations were made for anchoring there. A Chinese seaman was swinging the lead when the deceased, who was a passenger, popped his head out of a port hole. The lead struck him on the head and inflicted a very severe wound. He was attended to on board and then sent to the Tung Wah Hospital, but he did not recover.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following cable from the manager at the mines, being the result of the January clean up—"The mill ran 27 days crushing 1,000 tons yielding 360 ozs. of gold. We expect to get much more this month."

The annual general meeting of the members of the Hongkong Rifle Association was held at the Hongkong Hotel on the afternoon of the 10th Feb., Mr. C. Ford presiding. The report and accounts for the past year were passed, and the Committee re-elected. Major the Hon. E. Noel was elected President for the ensuing year, and Mr. Smyth and Mr. Chapman Secretary and Treasurer respectively. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Captain A. S. Palmer, who acted as Secretary and Treasurer during the past year, but found that increased duties would not allow of his continuing in office.

At the Central Police Station on the afternoon of the 6th Feb. Major-General Black distributed certificates to the members of the force who have recently passed the first and second examination in ambulance work. Dr. Cantlie then put fifteen men through their third examination and they all passed. Major-General Black warmly congratulated the men and spoke of the inestimable advantages of rendering first aid to the wounded. On behalf of the men Chief Inspector Corcoran bade Dr. Cantlie good-bye, and in returning thanks Dr. Cantlie said all the men who had attended the classes had done exceptionally well and he heartily congratulated them.

On the 5th February Major the Hon. E. Noel and the Officers of the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade (The Prince Consort's Own) gave a most enjoyable dance at the City Hall. The rooms were tastefully decorated, stars of bayonets on green shields being the most prominent feature. At the head of St. George's Hall two massive blocks of ice with electric lights between them had a charming effect and in St. Andrew's Hall, which was used as the supper room, the Battalion's handsome collection of trophies and plate, arranged on a side table, were examined with much interest by the guests. The music was supplied by the Battalion's excellent band. Amongst those present were H.E. the Governor, H.E. Admiral Buller and Mrs. Buller, and H.E. General Black and Mrs. Black.

The semi-final tie in the Hongkong Football Competition—played on Saturday afternoon resulted in a victory for Kowloon, who beat B Company, R.B., by one goal to nil. Perhaps one of the most noteworthy features in connection with the semi-finals now being decided is the very large number of spectators who have attended the past two matches. In the former semi-final tie between H.M.S. *Centurion* and the Hongkong Football Club more than fifteen hundred onlookers were counted, while more than one thousand were present on Saturday last. So intensely waxed the interest at critical points of the game that some spectators, unconsciously probably, trespassed on the field of play, thus not only threatening to interrupt the game, but also hindering the view of others who maintained the proper position behind the ropes.

At the Police Court on the 4th Feb., before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, the master of the *Chee Yun* Shop, Queen's Road Central, was summoned for selling arms to a person who did not possess a licence to carry arms, and also for selling arms of the value of over \$5 to a purchaser who did not possess an export permit from the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police. Mr. Johnson (Crown Solicitor) prosecuted, and Mr. Grist defended. The purchase was effected on the 22nd of January, when a man bought three rifles and two hundred rounds of ammunition. He was arrested and fined \$20, the rifles being forfeited. At the time of the purchase he was in company with several men whom the master said were soldiers belonging to the Chinese Government and who left on board the *Cass*. The defence was that the purchaser was a lieutenant in the Chinese army and was therefore exempted from the Ordinance. The prosecution, however, proved that the *Cass* was not a Chinese man-of-war, but a merchant vessel, and that the soldiers on the boat were disbanded. The Magistrate said it was not proved that the master was exempted. He was therefore fined \$25.

Who is the "Hero of a hundred centuries?" Such was one of the questions set by the examiners of Queen's College.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospital:—

Yeong Shu Him

\$25

A boy in the employ of Mr. G. J. B. Sayer, of the Naval Yard, was charged at the Police Court on the 5th Feb. with stealing some provisions, three silver spoons, and a silver fork from his master. The prisoner was met by an Indian constable carrying the provisions, which he said he was taking to the compradore. The policeman suspected this statement and the boy was taken to the police station, where Inspector Baker found the stolen silver upon him. A sentence of a month's imprisonment was passed.

On the night of the 5th February a Chinese prisoner made a remarkable and almost successful attempt to escape from Victoria Goal. It seems that he was placed in one of the cells in a block of the prison usually allotted to short sentence prisoners. These cells have a wooden ceiling and the man, who was undergoing a term of ten years' imprisonment, appears to have easily broken through the ceiling and roof, which he reached by standing upon various articles in his cell. Having climbed through the hole he got upon the roof of a building near Chancery Lane and slung a rope, which he had succeeded in concealing about him, round a chimney. At the other end of a rope he attached a heavy piece of tile, which he threw over the wall and cleverly hooked it on to the mortar and glass. He then climbed hand over hand across the rope and reached the top of the wall. Here he evidently met with his greatest obstacle, for when he was directly afterwards caught by a couple of Indian policemen his hands and feet were bleeding profusely as a result of mauling the edged glass on the top of the wall. It is somewhat of a mystery how he managed to break through the ceiling without attracting the attention of the Indian warder on duty, and it is also curious that he should have been able to secrete so much rope—it was 120 feet in length—about him. He is of course still in the gaol infirmary and will probably be there some time. He lost a large quantity of blood, and it is almost certain that he would have died if he had not been at once attended to. A private inquiry at the gaol respecting the affair resulted in the dismissal of two Indian warders, while a European warder was fined \$10.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

| | 1895-96 | 1894-95 |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Canton and Macao | 7,146,000 | 7,813,790 |
| Amoy | 653,530 | 772,692 |
| Poochow | 11,175,408 | 11,357,218 |
| Shanghai and Hankow | 21,111,512 | 21,591,499 |
| | 40,386,540 | 44,535,220 |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

| | 1895-96 | 1894-95 |
|----------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Amoy | 12,451,794 | 18,651,820 |
| Poochow | 6,066,651 | 4,626,555 |
| Shanghai | 29,029,320 | 25,796,160 |
| | 47,547,765 | 49,074,535 |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

| | 1895-96 | 1894-95 |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Hankow and Shanghai | 27,210,863 | 22,555,223 |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

| | 1895-96 | 1894-95 |
|----------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Yokohama | 29,566,650 | 28,462,134 |
| Kobe | 18,434,402 | 16,480,733 |
| | 48,001,052 | 44,942,927 |

SILK.

CANTON, 11th February.—Teatles and Re-reels. Nothing doing. Prices nominal. Filatures.—Owing to the proximity of the native New Year, holders have become considerably easier, and a decline of \$10/20 per picul on prices quoted in our 1st circular has favoured the execution of a good number of Lyons orders held at low limits. Buying has been fairly general, and the fortnight's settlements amount to about 1,200 bales at more or less irregular rates according to the degree of pressure to realize. We quote: \$650/630 for Miu King Lun 11/13, 13/15, \$640/630 for Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13, 13/15, \$640 for Wing Wo Lun 3/11, \$632 for Cheon Kee 10/11 and Kwong Shun Hang 11/13, \$625 for Quon Kwong Kee 9/11 and Kai Lun Yuen (5th crop) 11/13, \$610/615 for How King Cheong, Poo Cheong Wo, Hing Loong Cheong 10/12 and Luen Kee 13/15, 600 for Kai Lun Yuen (4th crop) 11/13 and Fair 2nd class 10/12, \$520 for Wai King Wo 19/22, \$530/535 for Gold 3rd class 11/13. With the clearance of this portion of their stock, reelers are now holding off until after the New Year and the market closes nominally firmer. The demand for New York is exceedingly dull and business with this market has been practically nil. Waste has remained quiet with a moderate enquiry at former rates. Stocks.—Teatles, 800/1,000 bales, Filatures, 4/5,000 bales. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange, 6 months' sight 2 1/2 and Feb. 2.78 per Dollar:—

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|------------|
| Tsattee | No. 1 | \$400 | | = 8/10 1/2 |
| | No. 2 | \$475 | | = 8/7 1/2 |
| | No. 3 | \$460 | | = 8/4 1/2 |
| | No. 4 | \$440 | | = 8/- |
| | No. 5 | \$430 | | = 7/11 1/2 |
| | No. 6 | \$415 | | = 7/6 1/2 |
| Filature 1st class | 11/13 | \$650 to \$610 | | |
| 1st | 13/15 | \$650 to \$640 | | |
| 2nd | 9/11 | \$640 | | |
| 2nd | 10/12 | \$610 | | |
| 2nd | 13/15 | \$620 | | |
| 2nd | 10/12 | \$600 | | |
| 3rd | 11/13 | \$540 to \$520 | | |
| 3rd | 13/15 | \$540 to \$520 | | |
| Long-reels Lacklow | | \$485 | | |
| Satow | | \$450 | | |
| Suilam | | \$415 | | |
| Re-reel Lacklow No. 1 | | \$550 | | |
| | No. 2 | \$530 | | |
| | No. 3 | \$515 | | |
| | No. 4 | \$500 | | |
| Mahang | No. 1 | \$520 | | |
| Punjum Books No. 3 & 4 | | \$ 83 | | |
| Punjum Waste | | \$ 75 | | |
| Steam Waste Extra | | \$ 82 | | |
| | No. 1 | \$ 62 | | |
| Gum Waste No. 1 | | \$ 74 | | |
| | No. 2 | \$ 52 | | |
| Pierced Cocoons | | \$ 63 | | |
| Settlements for the fortnight:— | | | | |
| | 1895-96 | | 1894-95 | |
| For Europe | 1,200 bales | | 100 bales | |
| For America | 75 " | | 200 " | |
| For Bombay | 35 " | | 15 " | |
| | [& 30 piculs. | | [& 10 piculs. | |

SHANGHAI, 6th February.—(From Messrs. Cronie and Burkill's circular.)—London advices up to 4th inst. report the market quiet. Gold Killing 8.0. Raw silk.—The stagnation of business in White Silks continues, and the only purchases during the week consist of 200 bales Yellow Silks. The advance in Silver and the firmness of the native holders are accountable for this. Teatles.—There are no buyers in this market and we do not hear of any offers having been made. Paysaams.—No transactions. Yellow Silks.—Are in fair demand for India. Prices are the same and stocks small. Arrivals, as per Customs House Returns from 31st January to 5th February are 507 bales of White Silk, 59 bales of Yellow, and 34 bales of Wild Silk. R-reels and Filatures.—No fresh business to report. Some native shipments are going forward to Lyons and the States. Wild Silks.—We hear of no transactions this week. Waste Silk.—Stocks are small and no fresh contracts have been made. Pongers.—Nothing of interest to report.

Purchases include:—Taysaam.—Green Kashing M at Tls. 340, Green Kashing Gr. Almond Flower 1 at Tls. 322. Yellow Silk.—Miencheu at Tls. 235. Meeyang Tls. 228 to Tls. 250, Fooyung Tls. 202.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

| | 1895-96 | 1894-95 |
|----------|---------|---------|
| | bales | bales |
| Shanghai | 46,076 | 44,121 |
| Canton | 9,180 | 6,523 |
| Yokohama | 15,858 | 11,933 |
| | 71,114 | 65,582 |

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

| | 1895-96 | 1894-95 |
|----------|---------|---------|
| | bales | bales |
| Canton | 13,111 | 12,577 |
| Shanghai | 8,587 | 7,052 |
| Yokohama | 21,843 | 21,151 |
| | 46,541 | 40,779 |

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 12th February.—There has been a sharp rise in prices. Quotations for Formosa are \$82.50 to \$83.00. During the past week sales have been 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 12th February.—The market improved slightly under the influence of a demand from Canton for China New Year. Following are the quotations:—

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Shackloong, No. 1, White | \$7.34 to 7.37 | per picul |
| do. " 2, White | 6.72 to 6.75 | " |
| Shackloong, No. 1, Brown | 4.72 to 4.75 | " |
| do. " 2, Brown | 4.58 to 4.61 | " |
| Swatow No. 1, White | 7.20 to 7.23 | " |
| do. " 2, White | 6.68 to 6.71 | " |
| do. " 1, Brown | 4.60 to 4.62 | " |
| Swatow, No. 2, Brown | 4.52 to 4.55 | " |
| Poochow Sugar Candy | 10.92 to 10.00 | " |
| Shackloong | 9.85 to 9.85 | " |

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The British steamship *Falldon Hall*, Hongkong to New York, 23th January, took:—8,472 rolls Matting, 925 boxes Palm Leaf Fans, 740 cases Preserved Ginger, 161 bales Rattan, 67 casks Ginger, 10 casks Soy, 10 cases Straw Hats, 2 cases Blackwood, 5 cases Bristles, and 612 packages Merchandise.

The American ship *John R. Kelley*, Hongkong to New York, 31st January, took:—6 cases Curios, 6 cases Chinaware, 25 casks Soy, 25 casks Ginger, 50 bales Rags, 65 bales Canes, 100 cases Cassia Buds, 143 bales Rush Hats, 230 bales Split Bimboos, 325 packages Rattanware, 327 cases Woodward, 365 packages Rattanware, 500 bales Cassia, 562 packages Tea, 630 bales Sheep's Wool, 618 bales Rattans, 99 packages Merchandise, 1,000 cases Cassia Ligna, 1,004 boxes Ginger, 1,438 bales Strawbraid, 2,280 bales Fans, 7,190 rolls Matting and 15,921 rolls Crackers.

The steamer *Achilles*, Hongkong to London, 2nd February, took:—1,326 boxes Tea (18,375 lbs. Scented Caper, 9,171 lbs. Congou), 283 bales Waste Silk, 30 bales Canes, 1,816 rolls Matting, 37 packages Curios, 291 cases M. O. P. Shells, 84 cases Bristles, 20 cases Palm Leaves, 20 cases Palm Leaf Fans, 105 cases Chinaware, 11 cases Woodward, 38 cases Cigars, 4 cases Silks, 1 box Gold, 4 cases Preserves, 400 casks Preserves, and 42 packages Sundries; for London option Manchester:—275 bales Waste Silk; for Manchester: 2 packages Sundries; for Liverpool:—58 Iron Flasks, 1 case Cigars and 820 bales Hemp; for Glasgow:—6 packages Sundries.

The German steamer *Karlsruhe*, Hongkong to Colimbo, 4th February, took:—311 packages Chinaware, 61 packages Provisions, 20 pieces Trunks, and 12 rolls Matting; for Beyrouth:—4 cases Glass Bangles; for Alexandria:—2 cases Glass Bangles; for Suez:—1 case Silks; for Antwerp:—5 bales Tobacco, 1 case Cigars, 10 bags Coffee, 178 bales Feathers, 30 bales Bamboo-ware, 12 cases Teasticks, 125 cases Preserves, 4 cases Chinaware, 11 rolls Matting, and 3.3 bales Bamboo Scraps; for Rotterdam:—87 packages Ginger, and 160 packages Tea; for Amsterdam:—55 cases Chinaware, 30 casks Ginger, 10 cases Teasticks, and 1 case Paperware; for St. Petersburg:—30 cases Effects; for Genoa:—250 boxes Cassia Ligna, 60 rolls Matting, and 180 bales Canes; for Trieste:—100 packages Tea; for Antwerp option London:—10 cases Bristles; for London:—2 rolls Matting; for Bremen option Hamburg:—18 rolls Matting; for Hamburg:—17 boxes Essential Oil, 4 packages Private Effects, 860 bales Feathers, and 40 casks Ginger; for Bremen:—2 cases Chocolate, 695 rolls Matting, 8 cases Curios, and 10 packages Old Ship's Stores.

The steamer *Gordogne*, Hongkong to Marseilles, 4th February, took:—150 cases Cassia; for Havre:—151 packages Matting, 77 cases Chinaware, and 15 packages Sundries.

The steamer *Natal*, Hongkong to Continent, 5th February, took:—248 bales Raw Silk, 37 cases Silk Piece Goods, and 13 cases Chinaware.

The P. & O. steamer *Aden*, Hongkong to London, 6th February, took:—4,705 bales Hemp, 2 cases Minerals, 31 cases Cigars, 2 cases Silk Piece Goods, 50 bales Waste Silk, 43 cases Blackwood ware, 10 cases Gongs, 512 packages Cans, 38 cases Chinaware, 263 rolls Matting, 500 cases Preserves, and 47 packages Sundries; for France—2 cases Silk Piece Goods; for Buenos Ayres—650 packages Tea, for New York—4 cases Sundries.

OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, 12th February.—Bengal.—Prices have further advanced owing to strengthening advices from India, and current rates are \$812½ for New Patna, \$820 for Old Patna, \$790 for New Benares, and \$815 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—Owing to an improvement in the demand there has been an advance in the rates for this drug, latest quotations for which stand as under:—

New \$760 with allowance to 1½ catty
Old \$770 " " to 11 "

Persian.—The market continues dull and prices are unchanged, Paper-wrapped being quoted at \$700 to \$765 and Oily at \$630 to \$670 according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| New Patna | 410 chests |
| Old Patna | 1,330 " |
| New Benares | 580 " |
| Old Benares | 480 " |
| Malwa | 390 " |
| Persian | 1,410 " |

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIMUM MARKET.

| DATE. | PATNA. | | BENARES. | | MALWA. | |
|---------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|
| | New. | Old. | New. | Old. | New. | Old. |
| 1896. | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Feb. 5 | 785 | 797½ | 765 | 792½ | 760 | 770 |
| Feb. 6 | 785 | 797½ | 765 | 792½ | 760 | 770 |
| Feb. 7 | 785½ | 797½ | 765 | 792½ | 760 | 770 |
| Feb. 8 | 800 | 810 | 775 | 800 | 760 | 770 |
| Feb. 9 | 805 | 815 | 785 | 810 | 760 | 770 |
| Feb. 10 | 807½ | 817½ | 790 | 810 | 760 | 770 |
| Feb. 11 | 812½ | 820 | 790 | 815 | 760 | 770 |
| Feb. 12 | 812½ | 820 | 790 | 815 | 760 | 770 |

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 29th January.—The price of Bengal has given way by about 50 cents per picul. Ningpo remains the same. Stocks: Bengal, 2,000 bales; Ningpo, 300 bales.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bombay | \$15.00 to 18.00 p. pl. |
| Kurrachee | 15.00 to 18.00 " |
| Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca | 16.50 to 18.50 " |
| Shanghai and Japanese | 20.00 to 21.50 " |
| Tungchow and Ningpo | 21.20 to 21.40 " |
| Madras | 17.00 to 18.50 " |

Sales: 450 bales Bengal, Rangoon and Dacca
150 bales Tungchow and Ningpo.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 12th February.—Large arrivals have come forward and prices are lower. Besting quotations are:—

| | per picul. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary | \$2.27 to 2.30 |
| " Round, good quality | 2.47 to 2.50 |
| " Long | 2.65 to 2.68 |
| Java, Paddy, well cleaned, No. 2 | 2.50 to 2.52 |
| " Garden | No. 1 2.75 to 2.78 |
| Siam, White | 3.08 to 3.10 |
| " Fine Cargo | 3.22 to 3.26 |

COALS.

HONGKONG, 12th February.—No business reported; business suspended owing to Chinese New Year. Quotations are:—

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Carbide | \$12.00 to 13.00 ex ship, nominal |
| Abraham | 7.50 to 8.00 ex ship, nominal |
| Middlebrook | \$5.00 to 5.75 ex ship, steady |
| Middlebrook | 1.85 to 2.00 ex ship, do |
| Middlebrook | 1.00 to 1.50 ex ship, nominal |
| Kobe, Large | 6.00 to 7.00 ex ship, nominal |
| Kobe, Small | 4.00 to 4.50 ex ship, nominal |
| Hongay Lump | 7.00 to — ex ship, nominal |

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 12th February.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—445 bales No. 10 at \$72.50 to 76, 540 bales No. 12 at \$72 to 76.50, 50 bales No. 16 at \$89, 230 bales No. 20 at \$86.50 to \$94. White Shirtings.—500 pieces Flower at \$4.85, 1,500 pieces No. 3 at \$3.30, 250 pieces D. 70 at \$3.50, 250 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.67½. Drills.—300 pieces 10 lbs.

large Eagle at \$5.20, 300 pieces 11 lbs. Peacock at \$3.75, Turkey Reds.—700 pieces 11 lbs. Mandarin at \$1.35. Spanish Stripes.—120 pieces 3 Fish assorted at \$0.24.

METALS.—Tin.—200 slabs diam at \$35.50, 100 slabs Fongchah at \$36.25. Quicksilver.—200 flasks at \$117.

SHANGHAI, 6th February.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noel's report).—There is very little of interest to report, all demand for current requirements being practically finished as mentioned last week, and the enquiry for forward delivery is on the wane. A few transactions for near arrival were concluded early in the interval, amongst which 12-lbs. Shirtings continue to hold a prominent position, and these, White Shirtings and 36-inch Mexicans have also been indented for to a moderate extent, otherwise, beyond the auctions, there is next to nothing doing in Piece Goods, but the activity still displayed in Indian Yarns promises well for a brisk trade generally at the commencement of the new season. That a strong enquiry will set in as soon as business is resumed is almost assured, the Tientsin merchants having bought comparatively little yet, not liking the prices demanded by holders here. They are seeing the uselessness of delaying any longer, however, and are said to have raised their offers lately two to three per cent., but that is only looked upon as a preliminary advance by the dealers, who evidently have the reins in their own hands. Steady prices have been maintained at auction for Cottons generally, and for Woollens a slight improvement is visible, for all except Spanish Stripes. Most, if not all, of the auctions will be suspended next week. Advices from Manchester this week, as regards the market, have been rather meagre; perhaps it was thought better not to say too much about it in face of the enormous export last month, which is certainly a staggerer, although somewhat anticipated after the news of the first fortnight's shipments had been received. The figures are 67,000,000 yards of plain cottons to Hongkong and China, by far the largest for many, many years past, and quite puts the modest totals for the same month the last two years in the shade, namely, 26 million yards in 1895 and 38 millions in 1894. The shipments of Yarn were 6,000 bales to Japan, 1,300 bales to Hongkong, and 700 bales for India. Purchases of 2,000 bales Drills and Shirtings have been advised from New York for this market during the interval at sterling prices that look fairly steady. The enquiry for Indian Yarns is still quite strong, a fairly quantity being settled again this week for delivery about the end of the month. Nothing has been done during interval in Japanese Yarns, but it has transpired that about 100 bales of the Osaka, Hamam, and Asahi Spinning Companies No. 16s. were contracted for about ten days ago at 12s. 12d., and the demand is still strong.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—(From Mr. Alex. Blifford's report).—7th February:—The week has again passed very quietly and no improvement can be expected this side of the native market. Money is plentiful, and Banks both native and foreign, are discouraging deposits. The "Shanghai" reports that the Viceroy of this province has been enquiring of several leading native merchants whether they are willing to interest themselves in the manufacture of various articles at present supplied from abroad in large quantities, such as Candles, Needles, etc. The officials said not, it is thought, interfere with the enterprise, and will encourage them in a similar manner as they already do the Cotton Spinning and Weaving. I am curious to see where the Chinese are going to get proper supplies of raw material for their candles, and they will have to work very closely to compete with the German makers for the Needle trade. Sales reported this week are as follows:—1,000 Tinplates at 14s. 100 tons London Horse-shoes private; 100 tons Steel Plate Cuttings private; 100 tons Glasgow Cart Tyres private; 100 tons Liverpool Shoes private; 1,000 cases Bamboo Steel private.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 12th February.—Business continues dull although stocks generally are changing hands in small lots. Rates have ruled strong during the week and market closes firm all round.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai ruled neglected during the early part of the week at 181, but later a small demand setting in rates rose without bringing out any sellers and at time of writing shares could probably be placed at 182 per cent. prem. Bank of China and Nationals continue neglected.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have changed hands at \$73½ and \$74, closing firm with buyers at \$75. Straits have been negotiated at \$25 and \$25½ and close in demand with no sellers.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have changed hands at \$288, \$289, and \$287½, closing steady at the latter rate. Chinas after further sales at \$91 were negotiated at \$90 and more shares could probably be obtained at that rate. Both Companies have issued their reports. The former recommends a dividend of \$9.05 per share for 1894 and the latter a final one of \$1 per share on account of 1894 and \$3 per share on account of 1895. These reduced dividends have been accepted by shareholders with resignation, and with hopes of better things to come in view of the working accounts of both concerns being exceptionally good for 1895, each showing an increase in balance carried forward of over \$90,000. This, combined with the friendly arrangement entered into with the home offices regarding rates, has prevented any fall in the market value of the shares, which otherwise, owing to the comparative small dividends, would have been pretty sure to have taken place. Mr. Georg in his last report compares the accounts of the two Companies for 1893 and 1894, so we need not go over the ground again, but in view of the fact of 1895 being the first year of the Hongkong Fire's working since the closing of the London branch we think the limited analysis that is possible of the two working accounts for 1895 as published may not be without interest.

Hongkong Fire. China Fire.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Total premia for 1895 less returns | | |
| Ke. | \$250,085 | \$248,011 |
| Proportion of do. to Capital | 62.52 % | 62.01 % |
| Running Expenses. | | |
| Charges and Commissions | \$49,183 | \$55,025 |
| Proportion of do. to prem. collected | 19.67 % | 22.14 % |
| Amount carried forward | \$260,712 | \$235,666 |

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have been in steady demand and a fair number have changed hands at \$36½, \$36½, \$36½, and \$37 cash, and a few at equivalent rates on time. Douglas's have also been enquired for and sales have been effected at \$50½, \$51, and \$51½ cash and are wanted at time of closing at \$52. Indo-Chinas are wanted up North at \$58 cash and forward, but there appear to be no sellers at present rates. China and Manilas continue neglected.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled weak with sales at \$5.50, \$5.25, and \$5.15, market closing at \$5.10 with buyers. Raubs advanced to \$4.30 after sales at \$4.10, \$4.15, and \$4.20, closing at \$4.10. Balmorals continue neglected. Jelebus have improved to \$3 after sales at \$2.85, \$2.90, and \$3. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa have continued steady and small sales have been effected at 149 per cent. prem., 149½, and 150; at time of writing shares are wanted in small lots. Kowloon Wharfs, owing to the probability of a final dividend of \$1.25 per share instead of \$1.75 as expected, have ruled weak, and shares have changed hands at \$17, \$16½, and \$16, closing with sellers at latter. The Company seems to have done as well or better than last year, but the necessity of providing for repairs in the near future has influenced the Directors to recommend the smaller dividend. Waichais remain unchanged.

REFINERIES.—Chinas are wanted to a very limited extent at \$112. Luzons continue quiet with sellers at \$59.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Lands have continued to rule in great request and a fair number have changed hands at \$69½, \$70, and \$71; market closes firm at latter rate. Hotels have improved to \$22½, after sales at \$21, \$21½, and \$22. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

MISCELLANEOUS.—We have to report sales of Electrics at \$6.75 and \$6.80, Watsons at \$11½, Fenwicks at \$20½ and \$21, and a small lot of Ices at \$97 ex div.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

| COMPANY. | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS. |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Banks— | | (\$352) buyers |
| Hongkong & Shanghai | \$125 | 182 p.c. prem. = |
| China & Japan, pref. | | nominal |
| Do. ordinary | £1 10s. | nominal |
| Do. deferred | £1 | £2, buyers |
| Natl. Bank of China | | |
| B. Shares | £5 | £27, sellers |
| Foun. Shares | £1 | \$105, sellers |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A. | 15s. | \$10, sellers |
| Brown & Co., H. G. | \$50 | \$5, sellers |
| Campbell, Moore & Co. | \$10 | \$5, buyers |
| Carmichael & Co. | £20 | \$9, ex div. |
| China Sugar | \$100 | \$112, buyers |
| Chinese Loan '86 E. | Tls. 250 | 10 p. c. prem. |
| Dakin, Cruick's & Co. | \$5 | \$1 |
| Dair. Farm Co. | \$10 | \$1 |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo. | £25 | \$21, sales & buyers |
| Green Island Cement | \$10 | \$14, sellers |
| H. & C. Bakery | \$50 | \$36 |
| Hongkong & C. Gas | £10 | \$100, buyers |
| Hongkong Electric | \$8 | \$6.80, sales |
| H. H. L. Tramways | \$100 | \$84, sellers |
| Hongkong Hotel | \$50 | \$22, buyers |
| Hongkong Ice | £25 | \$97, ex div. |
| H. & K. Wharf & G. | \$50 | \$46, sellers |
| Hongkong Rope | \$50 | \$150, sellers |
| H. & W. Dock | \$125 | 150 p. c. prem. = |
| Insurances— | | (\$312) a. & buyers |
| Canton | \$50 | \$190, sellers |
| China Fire | \$50 | \$91, buyers |
| China Traders' | £25 | \$75, buyers |
| Hongkong Fire | \$50 | \$287, a. & buyers |
| North-China | £25 | Tls. 220 a. & buyers |
| Straits | \$20 | \$25, sales & buyers |
| Union | £25 | \$195, sellers |
| Yangtze | \$60 | \$122, sales & buyers |
| Land and Building— | | |
| H. Land Investment | \$50 | \$71, buyers |
| Humphreys Estate | \$10 | \$91, sellers |
| Kowloon Land & B. | \$30 | \$15.25 |
| West Point Building | \$40 | \$18, sellers |
| Luzon Sugar | \$100 | \$59, sellers |
| Mining— | | |
| Charbonnages | Fcs. 500 | \$72 |
| Jelebu | \$5 | \$3, sales & buyers |
| New Balmoral | \$3 | \$1.70, buyers |
| Punjum | \$4 | \$5, sales & buyers |
| Do. (Preference) | \$1 | \$1.70, buyers |
| Raub | 13s. 10d. | \$4.10, sales |
| Steamship Coys.— | | |
| China and Manila | \$50 | \$7, sales & sellers |
| China Shippers | £5 | £2.10 |
| Douglas S. S. Co. | \$50 | \$52, buyers |
| H., Canton and M. | £20 | \$37, sales & sellers |
| Indo-China S. N. | £10 | \$58, buyers |
| Wanchai Warehouse Co. | \$37 | \$39, ex div. |
| Watson & Co., A. S. | \$10 | \$11, sellers |

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 7th February:—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Business has been done for cash at \$351.25 (181 per cent. premium) locally and \$351.87 (181 1/2 per cent. premium) from Hongkong. On time, shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$363.75 (191 per cent. premium) for May, and at \$367.50 (194 per cent. premium) for June. The market closes firm. The latest Hongkong quotation is \$352.50 (182 per cent. premium). The London rate is £42.50. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been placed at Tls. 41 and Tls. 42, and are offering. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares were sold to Hongkong at \$35, ex dividend. Docks.—Shares of S. C. Farham & Co. were placed at Tls. 190 cash and Tls. 190 for delivery on 3rd April. Marine Insurance.—North-Chinas have been placed at Tls. 225, and are offering. Unions are obtainable at \$195. Yangtszes have been sold at \$122, and Straits at \$25. Fire Insurance.—Chinas have been placed at \$85 ex div. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 105, and more are obtainable at the same rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf shares are offering in Hongkong at \$47. Mining.—Raub have been placed at \$4.10. Cargo Boats.—Shanghais have been placed at Tls. 210 cash, Tls. 212 for the 29th current, and Tls. 215 for 31st May. Co-operatives changed hands at Tls. 190. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares have been sold at Tls. 35 1/2 and Tls. 35 1/2 cash, and Tls. 38 for May. There are buyers at the closing cash rate. China Sugar Refining shares were done at \$108 and \$109. There are now buyers at \$110. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Co. shares have been in strong demand. Fully paid up shares were placed at Tls. 72 1/2 and Tls. 80, while shares with Tls. 30 paid up were sold at Tls. 55. Hongkong Land shares are wanted at \$68, and are held for \$70. Business was done in Hongkong at the higher

rate. Factories.—Shares in the Ewo Cotton Co. were sold at Tls. 60, and are in strong demand. Miscellaneous.—Business was done in:—Waterworks shares at Tls. 200. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 99 cash and Tls. 110 for June. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco shares at Tls. 270 cash, Tls. 270 to Tls. 280 for April, and Tls. 280 to Tls. 285 for May. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 53, Hali & Hali shares at \$30, and A. S. Watson & Co. shares at \$11.50, from Hongkong. Loans.—E. Loan Bank have changed hands at Tls. 275 plus the accrued interest.

WEDNESDAY, 12th February. CLOSING QUOTATIONS. EXCHANGE.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| ON LONDON.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 2 1/4 |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 2 1/4 |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight | — |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight | 2 1/2 |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight | 2 1/4 |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 2 1/4 |
| ON PARIS.— | |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 2.71 |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight | 2.76 |
| ON GERMANY.— | |
| On demand | 2.20 |
| ON NEW YORK.— | |
| Bank Bills, on demand | — |
| Credits, 60 days' sight | — |
| ON BOMBAY.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 182 1/2 |
| Bank, on demand | 183 |
| ON CALCUTTA.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 182 1/2 |
| Bank, on demand | 183 |
| ON SHANGHAI.— | |
| Bank, at sight | 71 1/2 |
| Private, 30 days' sight | 72 1/2 |
| ON YOKOHAMA.— | |
| On demand | par. |
| ON MANILA.— | |
| On demand | 8 1/2 pm. |
| ON SINGAPORE.— | |
| On demand | par. |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate | 9.10 |
| GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael | 48 |

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 12th February.—The principal demand since last report has been for tonnage to load at the southern rice ports.

From Saigon a fair number of settlements have been effected and the rate closes firm at 12 cents per picul for Hongkong.

From Bangkok tonnage is wanted at 12 cents outside and 17 cents per picul loaded inside the bar for Hongkong.

Japan coal freights are weak at \$1.20 to Hongkong and \$1.55 per ton to Singapore.

In other directions there is no demand.

A small sailer has been taken to load for New York at about 19s. per ton of 40 cubic feet.

There are 2 vessels disengaged in port, registering 1,295 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Ceres—German barque, 593 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

Formosa—British ship, 1,492 tons, hence to San Francisco, private terms.

Benmore—British steamer, 1,935 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Skarpsno—Norwegian steamer, 1,393 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Brundhild—Norwegian steamer, 886 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, \$4.50 in full.

Oslo—Norwegian steamer, 780 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 9 1/2 cents per picul.

Benedict—British steamer, 1,181 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Talce—British steamer, 828 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 1/2 cents per picul.

Germania—British steamer, 1,775 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Rhodora—British steamer, 1,993 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Adara—British steamer, 1,347 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Doris—German steamer, 817 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 1/2 cents per picul.

Inverlay—British steamer, 827 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Acquill—British steamer, 1,886 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 1/2 cents per picul.

Affghan—British steamer, 1,493 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Kongalf—Norwegian steamer, 502 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Swatow—German steamer, 724 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$4,210 per month.

Martha—German steamer, 1,560 tons, monthly, 4 months, \$5,250 per month.

Brundhild—Norwegian steamer, 886 tons, monthly, 4 months, \$4,000 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Nerite* (str.), *Ningchow* (str.), *Borneo* (str.), *Diomed* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Caledonien* (str.).

For HAVRE.—*Dorothea Rickmers* (str.), *Oceana* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Prinz Heinrich* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Brodick Castle*, *Peru* (str.), *Coptic* (str.), *Formosa*.

For VICTORIA.—*Hankow* (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*Daniel Burns*, *Port Adelaide*.

For AUSTRALIA.—*Taiyuan* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

| February— | ARRIVALS. |
|-----------|---|
| 5. | Hailoong, British str., from Coast Ports. |
| 5. | Yungching, Chinese str., from Canton. |
| 5. | Renvenue, British str., from Shanghai. |
| 5. | Gisels, Austrian str., from Kobe. |
| 5. | Nerite, British str., from Singapore. |
| 5. | Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Canton. |
| 5. | Bygdo, Norw. str., from Saigon. |
| 5. | Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Saigon. |
| 5. | Orestes, British str., from Shanghai. |
| 6. | Romulus, German str., from Moji. |
| 6. | Donar, German str., from Bangkok. |
| 6. | Ixion, British str., from Liverpool. |
| 6. | Esmeralda, British str., from Manila. |
| 6. | Milke Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama. |
| 6. | Wing Hong, British str., from Swatow. |
| 6. | Bombay, British str., from London. |
| 6. | Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton. |
| 6. | Devawongse, British str., from Bangkok. |
| 6. | Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong. |
| 7. | Feiching, British str., from Shanghai. |
| 7. | Boynton, British str., from Kutchinotzu. |
| 7. | Swatow, German str., from Haiphong. |
| 7. | Sabine Rickmers, German str., from Moji. |
| 7. | Petrarch, German str., from Saigon. |
| 8. | Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo. |
| 8. | Irene, Chinese str., from Canton. |
| 8. | Prosper, Norw. str., from Moji. |
| 8. | Kashing, British str., from Canton. |
| 8. | Else, Norwegian bark, from Albany. |
| 8. | Senta, German str., from Hamburg. |
| 8. | Shantung, British str., from Java. |
| 9. | Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong. |
| 9. | Amara, British str., from Straits. |
| 9. | Cosmopolit, German str., from Swatow. |
| 9. | Inverlay, British str., from Saigon. |
| 9. | Iser, British str., from Canton. |
| 9. | Lyderhorn, Norw. str., from Moji. |
| 9. | Marie Jensen, German str., from Saigon. |
| 9. | Merionethshire, Brit. str., from Yokohama. |
| 9. | Mongkut, British str., from Bangkok. |
| 9. | Paoting, British str., from Canton. |
| 9. | Martha, German str., from Saigon. |
| 9. | Radnorshire, British str., from London. |
| 9. | Rohilla, British str., from Bombay. |
| 9. | Taicheong, German str., from Aroe Bay. |
| 9. | Triumph, German str., from Hoihow. |
| 9. | Mirzapore, British str., from Bombay. |
| 9. | Wastwater, British str., from Haiphong. |
| 10. | Peiyang, German str., from Canton. |
| 10. | Glonesk, British str., from Shanghai. |
| 10. | Hoihow, British str., from Canton. |
| 10. | Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Quiuhon. |
| 10. | Taisang, British str., from Shanghai. |
| 10. | Victoria, Swedish str., from Bangkok. |
| 10. | Wing Hong, British str., from Swatow. |
| 10. | Vladimir Monomach, Rus. str., from N'saki. |
| 10. | Deuteros, German str., from Bangkok. |
| 10. | Pekin, British str., from Shanghai. |
| 10. | Frejr, Danish str., from Pakhoi. |
| 11. | Feiching, British str., from Canton. |
| 11. | Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Bremen. |
| 11. | Pyrhus, British str., from Shanghai. |
| 11. | Catherine Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta. |
| 11. | Siam, British str., from Bangkok. |
| 12. | Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports. |
| 12. | Nestor, British str., from Liverpool. |

12. Chintung, Chinese str., from Kiang Ying.
 12. Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
 12. Maria Teresa, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 12. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 12. Taisang, British str., from Cantou.
 12. Prinzes Wilhelm, German cr., from Amoy.
 12. Evandale, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
 12. Chwanshan, British str., from Saigon.
 12. Strathallan, British str., from Hongay.
- February—
 DEPARTURES.
 5. Doris, German str., for Hoihow.
 5. Feachen, Chinese telg. str., for a cruise.
 5. Formosa, British str., for Amoy.
 5. Glenavon, British str., for Shanghai.
 5. Hoihow, British str., for Canton.
 5. Jacob Christensen, Norw. str., for Saigon.
 5. Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
 5. Lennox, British str., for New York.
 5. Nagato Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
 5. Natal, French str., for Europe.
 5. Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
 5. Thekla, German str., for Hamburg.
 5. Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 6. Cosmopolit, German str., for Swatow.
 6. Activ, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 6. Aden, British str., for London.
 6. Decima, German str., for Saigon.
 6. Gisela, Austrian str., for Trieste.
 6. Yungching, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 7. Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 7. Sikh, British str., for Shanghai.
 7. Wing Hong, British str., for Swatow.
 7. Chingtu, British str., for Australia.
 7. Miikk Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 7. Nerite, British str., for Shanghai.
 7. Orestes, British str., for London.
 7. Feiching, British str., for Canton.
 8. Sabine Rickmers, German str., for Canton.
 8. Swatow, German str., for Moji.
 8. Ixion, British str., for Kobe.
 8. Brunhilde, German str., for Bangkok.
 8. Rhodora, British str., for Saigon.
 8. China, British str., for San Francisco.
 8. Benvenue, British str., for Singapore.
 8. Bombay, British str., for Shanghai.
 8. Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
 8. Kashing, British str., for Shanghai.
 8. Propontis, British str., for Singapore.
 8. P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
 8. Taiyick, German str., for Sumatra.
 9. Amoy, German str., for Amoy.
 9. Irene, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 9. Oscarshel, German str., for Bangkok.
 9. Prosper, Norw. str., for Canton.
 10. Archer, British cruiser, for Canton.
 10. St. Andrews, Amr. sh., for Elephant (P.B.).
 10. Bygdo, Norw. str., for Saigon.
 10. Adowa, British str., for Saigon.
 10. Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 10. Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 10. Merionthshire, British str., for London.
 10. Taisang, British str., for Canton.
 10. Victoria, British str., for Tacoma.
 10. Westwater, British str., for Kobe.
 11. Boynton, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 11. Cosmopolit, German str., for Swatow.
 11. Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 11. Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 11. Hoihow, British str., for Shanghai.
 11. Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Saigon.
 11. Olivia, Norw. bark, for Menado.
 11. Paoting, British str., for Shanghai.
 11. Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
 11. Wing Hong, British str., for Swatow.
 11. Amigo, German str., for Bangkok.
 11. Ancona, British str., for Yokohama.
 11. Ask, Danish str., for Pakhoi.
 11. Donar, German str., for Bangkok.
 11. Feiching, British str., for Shanghai.
 11. Glenesk, British str., for London.
 11. Iser, British str., for Manila.
 11. Mirzapore, British str., for Shanghai.
 11. Strathallan, British str., for Sourabaya.
 11. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 12. Argyll, British str., for Saigon.
 12. Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
 12. Holenzellern, Ger. str., for Yokohama.
 12. Marie Jebent, German str., for Saigon.
 12. Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 12. Skarpsno, Norw. str., for Saigon.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Aden*, str., from Yokohama, &c.—Mr. James Jones.
 Per *Victoria*, str., from Tacoma, &c.—Mrs. Air, Messrs. B Spain and P. Gibbons.

Per *Natal*, str., for Hongkong from Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Probst and infant, Messrs. L. Davis, G. de Souza, Matsugota, S. Harada, Kn-bota, McKenzie, Bekkeys, Douglas Graham, Marcel Van de Velde, Eldridge, Midwood, Pasquet, Bernheim, Chas. Smith, Hughes, Shirano, D. Alénos, and Almeida. From Yokohama—Mr. F. Arnold. From Kobe—Messrs. Chow Con Lup and Marangoni. From Nagasaki—Mr. Sato. For Saigon from Yokohama—Messrs. Peschand and Lagarde. For Singapore from Nagasaki—Mrs. Otatsu. For Batavia from Yokohama—Mr. Shouwenburg. For Colombo from Shanghai—Miss Grace, Messrs. J. Altios, J. Roberts, and Barclay. For Port Said from Shanghai—Dr. W. Popow, Vice-Admiral Tyrtoff, Lieut. de Van Tschaguine, Lieut. Richter. From Nagasaki—Messrs. Kroudratieff, A. Lou-raff, and Terentieff. For Marseilles from Shanghai—Mr. Roscongard. From Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Houval, Lieut.-Col. Outchiyama, Lieut. Yashiro, Rev. R. P. Bernard, Messrs. C. Cymard, Muste, Paul Mourier, Jérôme, Le Merer, Lescop, and Varluzet. From Kobe—Messrs. Kimura and Fujita. From Nagasaki—Capt. Peretlenny, Messrs. Legall and Brigent.

Per *Formosa*, str., from Tamsui, &c.—Mr. Law Yen Wei.

Per *Gisela*, str., from Kobe—Count and Countess Condenshave and 2 children, Messrs. H. Janny, Hohenberger, and Löwenstein.

Per *Orestes*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. Boyd.

Per *Feiching*, str., from Shanghai—Mr. Cunningham.

Per *Thales*, str., from Taiwanfoo, &c.—Surg.-Major James, Dr. Sandeman, and Mr. Gowland.

Per *Radnorshire*, str., from London, &c.—Mrs. Davies, Miss Davies, and Master Davies.

Per *Amara*, str., from Penang, &c.—Mr. Reed (2), and Mr. Napier from Singapore.

Per *Mirzapore*, steamer, from London for Hongkong—Messrs. Chayton and D. Farquharson. From Brindisi—Mr. Ezekiel. From Bombay—Messrs. T. Camrudin, H. McLaggan. From Calcutta—Mr. and Mrs. D. Pocock, and Miss Harding. From Singapore—Mr. Looser. For Shanghai from London—Messrs. C. Ross, L. R. Squires, H. Hunt, Bullard, Dunsmore and Dallas. From Brindisi—Mr. Spitzel, Mr. and Mrs. Burkhill, and Sir N. Hannon. From Ismailia—Mr. Purser. From Bombay—Mr. W. H. Marks. From Calcutta—Mr. A. Mackenzie. For Yokohama—Mr. A. C. Spender. From Brindisi—Mr. O. Callagan.

Per *Taisang*, str., from Swatow—Mr. and Mrs. Machaffie. From Shanghai—Messrs. C. E. Olivier, M. Olivier, H. Fromogeot, H. Price, F. L. Bickerton, and J. M. d'Almeida.

Per *Pyrhus*, str., from Shanghai—Captain and Engineers of steamer *Devonhurst*.

Per *Catherine Apcar*, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Lieut.-Col. Norcott, Capt. Stewart, Messrs. N. Mitchell Innes, E. R. M. Cohen, D. M. Lung-raua, and Handelman.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, str., from Bremen, &c.—Messrs. Temme, Munder, Wissner, Ronald, Enstace v. Fuml, Fuller, Rembach, Brotze, Neumuller, Hoffmann v. Gerlach, Stoepel, Greenrock, and Aikert. Capt. Jacobsen, Thompson, and Petersen. Dr. Suda, Lieut. Pfamer, General and Mrs. v. Thunemann, Major Alt, and Mrs. Vincent.

Per *Pekia*, str., from Shanghai for Hongkong—Messrs. J. A. Cockerell, Van Carbach, F. Gove, J. Wilson, J. O. Liddell, F. Ayseough, R. Macgregor, H. Sylva, Bruce Robertson, D. W. Crawford, C. R. Burkill, L. G. Stevenson, Lieut. E. S. Carey, R.N., Mrs. Davenport and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Poate, and Mrs. Crowlie. For Singapore—Messrs. John Gustav Patterson and Carl Patterson. For Brindisi—Messrs. Stone and E. Wilton Schiff. For London—Miss Astrid Naess. From Yokohama for Hongkong—Mrs. Tocque and child. For Bombay—Lieut. W. B. Abbey. For Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. Nishigawa. For Sydney—Mr. A. P. Robertson. For London—Mr. Wm. Adams. From Kobe for Hongkong—Mrs. J. H. Kerchoff, and Mr. P. Kelly. For Bombay—Messrs. R. Sethna, J. Abe, J. R. Morita, J. Sakamoto.

DEPARTED.

Per *Choyssing*, str., for Swatow—Miss E. Foster. For Shanghai—Lieut. P. E. Allen, and Lieut. Krag.

Per *Kaisaw*, str., from Shanghai for Singapore—Mr., Mrs., and Miss Mayne.

Per *Tantalus*, str., for Shanghai—Messrs. C. H. Ryde and F. Maitland.

Per *Melbourne*, str., for Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Thomson, Mrs. Ricco, Mrs. Tong, Revs. Ferrie and Robert, Messrs. Tong Ku Hing, Tong Chung Lou.

Per *Karlsruhe*, str., from Shanghai for Bremen—Mr. E. A. Jellison. For Genoa—Messrs. H. Krebs and E. Warnecken. For London—Miss R. Cadwallader and Sister May. For Bremerhaven—Messrs. F. Etner and A. Recklies. From Yokohama for Genoa—Messrs. Metake, Nonake, Sato, Yamamoto, and H. Albrecht. For Southampton—Capt. Bond, Messrs. Davis Johnstone, Chodler, and McCallum. From Kobe for Singapore—Messrs. Suzino Kiko and Takate Kane. From Nagasaki for London—Messrs. P. Sharp and C. Harnell. From Hongkong for Bremerhaven—Messrs. O. Halvorsen, W. Schultz, Olsén, Beckmann, Woldt, Olsen, Saatmann, Kaschuba, Semick, Muller, Zimmermann, P. Pause, and F. Schmohl. For Genoa—Messrs. H. Schellenberg, E. Kretzschmer, Rev. D. Schaible and family, Rev. Gottschalk and family, Mr. Carl Zeiner. For Bremen—Messrs. C. Grundwaldt and W. Umbach, Miss Probst. For Port Said—Mr. G. Bastwitz. For Singapore—Messrs. M. Gilroy, A. Haas, Mr. and Mrs. Leong Kai Chume.

Per *Natal*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon—Mr. Lai. For Singapore—Misses Eyre and Johnstone, Messrs. J. Kirk, Oh Long Kee, Max Gaugh, G. A. Kottgen, F. Focke. For Port Said—Mr. M. Ezekiel. For Marseilles—Messrs. Dupuis, D. Marcello, Joaquim Pedro, F. de Paula Reis, S. C. Partridge, Mansel Joao, and Jose Pinto. Lieuts. L. C. S. Woolcombe and Maurice Neill. From Shanghai for Colombo—Mr. J. Altios, Miss Grace, Messrs. T. Roberts, S. Barclay. For Port Said—Dr. W. Popow, H.E. Vice-Admiral Tyrtoff, Lieuts. Richter and Tschaguine. For Marseilles—Mr. Roscongard. From Yokohama for Batavia—Mr. Shouwenburg. For Saigon—Messrs. Peschand and Lagarde. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Houval, Lieut.-Col. Mr. K. Outchiyama, Lieut. Yashiro, Mr. Cymard, Rev. P. Bernard, Messrs. Musté, Paul Mourier, Jérôme, Le Merer, Lescosa, and Varluzet. From Kobe for Marseilles—Messrs. Kimura and Fujita. From Nagasaki for Singapore—Mrs. Otatsu. For Port Said—Mr. Kroudratieff, Lieut. A. Zouroff, and Mr. A. Terentieff. For Marseilles—Capt. Peretlenny, Messrs. Le Gall and Brigent.

Per *Hailoong*, str., for Amoy—Mr. P. J. Sproule. For Foochow—Mr. H. M. Bevis.

Per *Chingtu*, str., for Brisbane—Mr. Attilio Marangoni. For Sydney—Mrs. Dawson, Master Dawson, and Mr. J. Holliday.

Per *China*, str., for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Naragushi. For Kobe—Messrs. R. H. Carper, Von Scholer, and Von Nauendorf. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. J. Wadell. Mr. and Mrs. Bowden and two sons, and Mr. A. H. Rennie. For Vancouver—Mr. Andrew Johnston. For London—Dr. and Mrs. Cantlie, son, and nurse.

Per *Bombay*, str., for Shanghai from Hongkong—Messrs. A. Ross, H. W. Andrews, G. Litton, and Dannevig. From London—Mr. and Mrs. Larkins and child. From Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. G. Santa Maria.

Per *Victoria*, str., for San Francisco—Messrs. Nide and Killelea.

Per *Glenesk*, str., for London—Capt. Cormack.

Per *Esmeralda*, str., from Manila—Messrs. F. S. da Souza, Adolph Imhoff, J. Dangerfield, and J. E. Gibson, Misses M. Wood and May Miller.

Per *Mirzapore*, str., for Shanghai from Hongkong—Mrs. Place, Miss Ruby Place, Messrs. David Brann, L. C. Pareto, Mr. and Mrs. R. Scott. From Calcutta—Messrs. A. E. Spender and A. Mackenzie. From Bombay—Mr. W. H. Marks. From London—Messrs. C. Ross, L. R. Squires, Hunt, Bullard, Mrs. Dunsmore, and Mr. Dallas. From Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. Burkhill, Sir N. Hannon, and Mr. Spitzel. From Ismailia—Mr. Turser.